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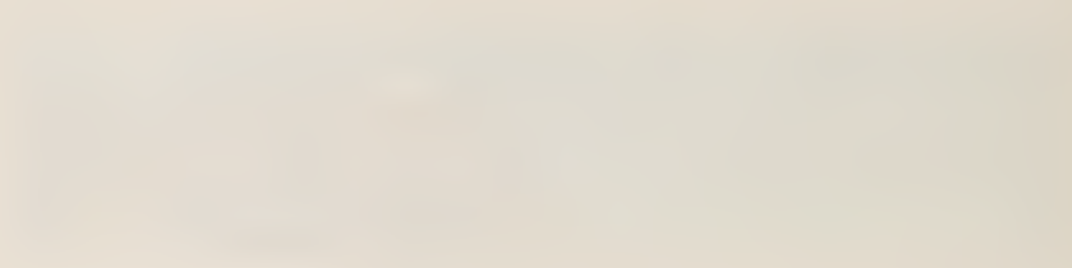


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WB Seeks to Acquire RKO Theatre Lease

Would Dissolve Mutual Interest in Cleve. House

An agreement subject to court approval, for the acquisition by Warners of RKO's interest in the lease of the Allen Theatre, Cleveland, was disclosed yesterday when counsel for RKO filed with the U. S. District court here the company's quarterly report on theatre holdings as required by the tribunal in its decree in the industry anti-trust case.

Ending of the joint arrangement would be in keeping with opinions expressed by the Supreme Court on joint operations by defendants in its recent Paramount case rulings.

According to the report, an application will be made to the court if the landlord of the property approves the deal. The Allen is leased by RKO and WB from the Bulkley Building Co.

RKO asserted that, since it was "not certain" whether any further re-

(Continued on page 6)

Court Holds RKO to Jackson Pk. Decree

CHICAGO, June 30.—RKO's motion entered by attorney Miles Seeley asking for exemption from contempt charges in the Jackson Park decree was overruled today by Judge Michael J. Igoe in U. S. District Court here. Judge Igoe said he adopted the opinion of April 21 when the motion was filed on the contempt proceedings as his findings of fact and conclusions of law. RKO's motion was based on arguments that the RKO Palace and Grand theatres were not named defendants in the original decree but were separate corporations operating under individual corporations.

5th & Walnut Jury Saw 'No Monopoly'

That the acquittal of the distributor and other defendants in the Fifth and Walnut Amusement Corp. anti-trust case was keyed to the interpretation of what constitutes monopoly was the opinion in industry legal circles here yesterday.

Viewed as an indication of this was the action of the District Court jury, which interrupted its deliberations late

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N. J. Allied Favors Conciliation Plan

WEST END, N. J., June 30.—New Jersey Allied in its final meeting today, passed a resolution endorsing the 20th-Fox conciliation plan, but will proceed cautiously until the organization can satisfy itself that the plan has no "gimmick."

The first step in this direction will be the appointment of a committee, so far undesignated, to confer with A. W. Smith, Jr., 20th-Fox general sales manager. Actually Jersey Allied's endorsement was made without an opportunity to fully analyze the plan, so that caution will be the watchword for the organization before finally deciding whether or not to accept it.

On Tuesday, National Allied, through its president, William Ainsworth, and its Eastern units, through their respective representatives, fully endorsed the local grievance committee plan established by 20th-Fox in Minneapolis in cooperation with North Central Allied.

Other matters discussed included

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MPEA Meet Today On Action on UK

The executive committee of the Motion Picture Export Association at a meeting here today will endeavor to develop a program aimed to counter Britain's 45 per cent exhibition quota, with the formulation of an MPEA service organization considered in some quarters as a possible result of the session.

Executives here, however, point out

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"Hamlet"

[Two Cities-U-I] — Noteworthy, but Shakespeare

ANALYSIS of the much-heralded "Hamlet" is not difficult and falls at once into two distinct divisions. One is geared to the nature of this business as a purveyor of mass entertainment. The other, equally as obvious, is what kind of a Hamlet is Laurence Olivier and what is there to say qualitatively about his production of Shakespeare's greatest play.

The first answer is readily at hand. Since Shakespeare is not for the rank-and-file, his plays cannot be for them. Warner learned this with "Midsummer Night's Dream," Metro with "Romeo and Juliet," Mary Pickford with "The Taming of the Shrew" and Arthur Rank and UA with "Henry V." Rank and U-I will learn it with "Hamlet" if they should happen to lack the awareness now.

It is immediately clear that the tragedy will have its best opportunity in theatres apart from those identified with the normal run of product and on a policy which generally parallels the handling of "Henry V." Because the play has survived the centuries and long since has taken on a timeless equation, "Hamlet" will not be bound by seasons. There is no

(Continued on page 6)

20th-Fox Files 4th Video Bid; Plans 5th

Washington, June 30.—Twentieth Century-Fox of Missouri today asked the Federal Communications Commission for permission to build a television station in Kansas City. This is the fourth application to be filed by a 20th-Fox subsidiary, other subsidiaries having previously applied for stations in Boston, San Francisco and Seattle. It is understood that 20th-Fox will also file shortly for a fifth station at St. Louis through its new subsidiary there.

La. Bill to Regulate Films Is Withdrawn

NEW ORLEANS, June 30.—The Blanchard bill, providing for state regulation of film distribution in a manner based almost identically upon the New York Federal Court order in the Government's anti-trust suit against the industry, has been withdrawn by its author, Rep. M. A. Blanchard of this city, who introduced it in the House early in the current session of the legislature.

The measure, known as House Bill No. 533, was looked upon with as much disfavor by independent exhibitors in the state as it was by local distributors.

The measure would have required local trade showings in every Parish (county) in the state, prior to exhibition, and advertising of the trade showings. Licensing of films would

(Continued on page 6)

Schary Quits as Head of RKO Production

Resignation Follows on Cancellation of 3 Films

HOLLYWOOD, June 30. — Dore Schary today resigned his post as vice-president in charge of RKO Radio production, effective immediately. The resignation, which came as a surprise here due to the issuance of a formal statement by Schary two weeks ago saying that he and Howard Hughes were in agreement on production policies, came as a sequel to the cancellation yesterday of three scheduled productions, presumably at the direction of the new owner of RKO.

The pictures cancelled were the Lasky-MacEwen production, "Battle-ground," slated to go before the cameras in September, and "Setup" and "Bed of Roses," which were to have started this month.

Schary's contract, a five-year pact entered into on Jan. 1, 1947 and calling for an estimated \$500,000 annually,

(Continued on page 6)

TOA, Ampa May Join In Public Relations

Robert W. Coyne and Gael Sullivan, for the Theatre Owners of America, and Max Youngstein, president of the Associated Motion Picture Advertisers, came to an "agreement in principle" at a preliminary meeting here yesterday at which Youngstein outlined his plans for industry public relations and asked for TOA cooperation.

Youngstein said he found both Coyne and Sullivan "receptive" to his ideas and that another meeting is

(Continued on page 6)

Mochrie to Preside At 5 RKO Meetings

Robert Mochrie, RKO Radio distribution vice-president, has set a series of five regional meetings for the discussion of current and forthcoming product. Winners of the 1948 "Ned Depinet Drive" will be announced at the same time.

First meeting will be in Buffalo on Monday, July 12 with Mochrie presiding. Also from the home office will be Nat Levy, Harry Michalson, A. A.

(Continued on page 6)

Personal Mention

LOUIS B. MAYER, M-G-M production head, flew to the Coast yesterday from New York.

CARTER BARRON, Loew district manager in Washington, is chairman of a special activities committee of the Greater National Capital Committee which will commemorate the 10th anniversary on Monday of the laying of the Washington Monument cornerstone.

JACK BENNY and his wife, MARY LIVINGSTONE and their daughter, JOAN; PHIL HARRIS and his wife, ALICE FAYE; KAY KYSER and MRS. KYSER and MICHAEL REDGRAVE are among passengers who sailed for Europe yesterday on the SS *Queen Elizabeth*.

ROBERT D. OLSON, formerly of the international publicity department of 20th Century-Fox, will leave here Tuesday for England to serve as American liaison publicist for Transatlantic Pictures' "Under Capricorn."

BEN LAMO, assistant manager of the Warner Strand in Hartford, who has been a patient at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, has been moved to Hartford Hospital for further convalescing.

PHILLIP LINDNER, who joined RKO Theatres in 1900 and is currently assigned to the RKO Albee in Brooklyn, and his wife will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on Saturday.

BERNIE RUBIN, head of Imperial Pictures, Cleveland, and MAX SHULGOLD, head of Crown Film, Pittsburgh, are in New York for conferences with Astor Pictures executives.

MILTON E. COHEN, Eastern divisional sales manager for Eagle-Lion, was in Boston yesterday from New York and will be in Gloversville, N. Y., today.

JOSEPH BERNARD, Film Classics president, who was in Washington yesterday from the Coast, is due in New York today.

DARRYL F. ZANUCK, 20th Century-Fox production vice-president, will leave New York by plane on July 10 for London.

GEORGE MARGOLIN, president of Continental Motion Pictures, has returned to New York from Italy.

JUNE E. DORTH of the M-G-M Cleveland booking department, is vacationing in New York.

THOMAS KNIGHT, owner of the Acme Theatre in Riverton, Wyo., has been elected mayor there.

DAVID HORNE, Film Classics foreign sales manager, is in London from Brazil.

Accused Exhibitors Accuse Distributors

Developments in percentage suits brought by RKO and Loew's against Nathan Steinberg, Leonard Finkelstein and Parkway Theatre Corp., which operates the Parkway in Mt. Vernon, N. Y., took an unexpected turn in U. S. District Court here yesterday when the defendants, in an amended answer to the charges, filed a counterclaim of \$150,000 against each of the plaintiffs, accusing them of violating the anti-trust laws.

The defendants submitted counterclaims for damages after Judge Harold R. Medina, acting on the consent of all parties involved, granted their motion to amend their answers to the percentage actions. Dismissal of the suits was asked by the defendants.

RKO and Loew's were charged with being engaged in a conspiracy with other distributors to fix runs, clearance and playing time with respect to films licensed to exhibitors in Westchester County. They were further accused of "systematically" excluding the Parkway Theatre Corp. from the opportunity of procuring preferred runs of product distributed by the two companies and other major distributors. It was asserted that the Parkway was relegated to a last run category as a result of the alleged conspiracy.

'Lulu Belle' Banned By Memphis Censor

MEMPHIS, June 30.—"Lulu Belle," Columbia picture starring Dorothy Lamour, today was banned from Memphis by the city censors, L. T. Binford, chairman, announced. He said the picture, tentatively scheduled to open August 12 at the Malco Theatre, was banned by unanimous vote.

Binford said in part that "Lulu Belle" is "a sensual performance catering to the lowest impulses of its audiences" and has the "fatal weakness of presenting no morally decent characters for whom an audience sympathy might flow."

Mexican Shutdown Is Expected Today

MEXICO CITY, June 30.—Practically all film production here now threatens to be suspended tomorrow with the strike of the National Cinematographic Industry Workers Union, postponed from June 26 at the request of the Federal Board of Conciliation and Arbitration. Unions at the four studios involved want pay hikes of 40 to 60 per cent for most employees, and as high as 150 per cent for others. Studios are Churubusco, Clasa, Azteca and Tepeyac.

Siegel Is New Head of Century Ad-Publicity

Myron Siegel, assistant to Fred Schwartz, Century Circuit's executive vice-president, will take over as advertising-publicity director today when Ed Schreiber's resignation becomes effective. Siegel held the post previously, leaving it to become Schwartz's aide.

Wright Flies to Griffith Hearing

Washington, June 30.—Robert L. Wright, special assistant to the Attorney General, left here by plane today for Oklahoma City to represent the Government in tomorrow's hearing in Oklahoma District Court on further proceedings in the Griffith anti-trust suit. The Government is asking for a temporary ban on further expansion by the Southwestern circuit.

Colorado Ready for 'Canon City' Opening

DENVER, June 30.—Bryan Foy, producer of Eagle-Lion's "Canon City" will be honored by Denver University tomorrow for "his contribution to culture," it was announced by Robert W. Selig, president of the university's board, and Dr. Campton Bell, director of the university's school of the theatre.

The film will have its premiere in Canon City on Friday at two Fox Intermountain theatres before an audience which will include Gov. Lee Knous, the governors of six neighboring states and six former governors of this state as well as Rocky Mountain industrialists and exhibitors.

ECA Board to Probe Progress July 14

WASHINGTON, June 30.—Economic Cooperation Administrator Paul G. Hoffman has set July 14 for the first meeting of his 12-man public advisory board, on which Motion Picture Association of America president Eric Johnston serves. The meeting is expected to go over ECA's progress during the first quarter, April through June, and discuss plans and problems for the next quarter.

Meanwhile, ECA officials still report "hard work but little progress" in working out the application of the program's convertibility guarantees for films and other information media.

Markey and Loy Are Production Partners

HOLLYWOOD, June 30.—Writer-producer Gene Markey and Myrna Loy have formed Charter Films, Inc., to produce four features independently for undetermined release.

Pioneer Sets Second

At a Pioneer Pictures' press reception here yesterday at Le Ruban Bleu, Ralph Cohn and Jules Bricken president and vice-president, respectively, announced that "The Broadway Story" will be the company's second production to be made in New York following "Kingsblood Royal." Charles Lederer will do the screenplay from material supplied by Broadway columnists Dorothy Kilgallen, Louis Sobol, Danton Walker and Earl Wilson.

Phila. Exhibitor May Appeal Video Ban

PHILADELPHIA, June 30.—Henry Friedman, local exhibitor who was prevented from giving an unauthorized theatre showing of a telecast of the Joe Louis-Joe Walcott bout last week, has been permitted by Judge Sloane here to appeal the Philadelphia Common Pleas Court ruling for future events of a similar nature.

Friedman said he is attempting to get a number of exhibitors who are also interested in theatre telecasts to join him in appealing the case. As yet, however, Friedman has taken no formal action.

The ruling barring unauthorized reproductions of television programs in theatres and other places which charge admission was handed down when National Broadcasting, Philco, Gillette Safety Razor, and others asked for and received an injunction to restrain Friedman's Lawndale Theatre and the Lanbar Hotel from picking up the telecast.

Dignitaries at 20th's Preview in Capital

WASHINGTON, June 30.—A special preview of 20th-Fox's "The Street with No Name" at the Statler Hotel here last night was attended by 800 Government officials, members of the diplomatic corps, film and theatre executives and the press.

Spyros P. Skouras, president of 20th-Fox, joined J. Edgar Hoover, FBI director, in greeting guests, among whom were Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association of America, Joyce O'Hara, his executive assistant, and Carter Barron, local Loew executive. A buffet supper followed the screening. An on-the-spot special events news broadcast of the affair was arranged by NBC.

Terms Gov. Dewey a Friend of the Trade

ALBANY, N. Y., June 30.—Gov. Thomas E. Dewey is well aware of the film industry's contributions to the nation and to local communities, according to John May, treasurer of Schine Theatres, and once a candidate for State Comptroller on the Republican ticket, who said he based this conclusion on conversations he has had with the Presidential nominee. May added that Myer Schine also has had talks with the Governor and is of the same opinion.

20th To Argue Today For 'Frisco Channel

WASHINGTON, June 30.—Hearings on applications for television stations in San Francisco will go into their last lap here tomorrow with 20th Century-Fox, represented by Spyros and Charles Skouras, slated to be lead-off witnesses. Five firms, including 20th-Fox and Paramount, are applying for three video channels, and all but 20th-Fox have finished their testimony at hearings which have been on since June 21.

NEW WARNER EXCITEMENT—A STAR-LOAD OF IT!

**HUMPHREY
BOGART**

**EDWARD G.
ROBINSON**

**LAUREN
BACALL**

KEY LARGO

**LIONEL
BARRYMORE**

**CLAIRE
TREVOR**



AND
THOMAS
GOMEZ · RODNEY
DIRECTED BY
JOHN HUSTON · JERRY WALD
PRODUCED BY

Screen Play by Richard Brooks and John Huston
Based on the Play by MAXWELL ANDERSON
As Produced on the Spoken Stage, by the
Playwrights Company • Music by Max Steiner



ROOTIN', TOOTIN' RKO SHOW
BIG AREA PREMIERE DOWN



RETURN OF

RANDOLPH SCOTT • ROBERT
GEORGE "GABBY" HAYES

Produced by NAT HOLT • Directed by RAY ENRIGHT • Sc



MANSHIP WHOOPS IT UP FOR OKLAHOMA-TEXAS WAY!



Day and night excitement kicks off
75-theatre opening beginning with
World Premiere at Guthrie July 7...
Bands, parades, ballyhoo... Blanket
radio coverage... Special newspaper
and poster campaigns... Cow-
boy stars, singers, personalities (in-
cluding Jesse James himself ?)
... Explosive exploitation for
**THE GREAT BIG ACTION
WESTERN OF 1948!**

THE BAD MEN

**RYAN • ANNE JEFFREYS
JACQUELINE WHITE**



by CHARLES O'NEAL • JACK NATTEFORD and LUCI WARD

Best Regards



—FROM ALL OVER THE LAND!

First reports from Boston, Miami, Philadelphia, New York, San Francisco, Cleveland—"Broadway" gets that "Mother Wore Tights" Boxoffice Business!

And doing the wonder business of "I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now" in Los Angeles, Portland, Kansas City, Houston, Milwaukee and Baltimore.



Give my Regards
to Broadway

Color by **TECHNICOLOR**

...regards from the critics, too!

W. WARD MARSH, CLEVELAND PLAIN DEALER
"Not to be missed. A real and constant delight!"

WALTER WINCHELL
"A Song-And-Dandy!"

KARL KRUG, PITTSBURGH SUN TELEGRAPH
"Plenty of kick. A happy hit!"

HELEN EAGER, BOSTON TRAVELER
"Grand entertainment!"

MILDRED MARLIN, PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER
"Wonderfully winning, happily human!"

EILEEN CREELMAN, N. Y. SUN
"Best of its kind!"

—with happy boxoffice 'regards' from **20** Century-Fox

FIRST
IN
FILM
NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate
Concise
and
Impartial

64. NO. 2

NEW YORK, U.S.A., FRIDAY, JULY 2, 1948

TEN CENTS

Chance of New U.K. Embargo Seems Slight Video Will Not Hurt Theatres: Chas. Skouras

MPEA Control Reported Approved for Britain

With apparently all possibilities of a new embargo on American film shipments to Britain ruled out by divergent views and interests of individual companies, the Motion Picture Export Association at a meeting here yesterday reportedly agreed upon the extension of its operations to Britain to achieve controlled film service to that country.

Characteristically, the MPEA would not confirm or deny the report, but a statement which it issued following the meeting lent credence to the report. In referring to the appointment of F. W. Allport as an American industry representative on the Control Committee to administer the agreement in settlement of the British film tax, the MPEA statement described Allport as "the London representative of the MPEA companies in London."

The MPEA, heretofore, has not op-

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Allport, Chris on Anglo-US Film Unit

Fayette W. Allport, London representative of the Motion Picture Export Association, and T. Chris, London manager of the Bank of London, have been appointed as the American film industry's representatives on the Control Committee provided for in the Anglo-American film agreement, it was announced yesterday.

John McCarthy, who had been serving temporarily on the Control Committee, is to leave London today for the MPEA home office in New York. Chris will leave here for London July 7.

Arthur Abeles Seen Succeeding Milder

LONDON, July 1. — Resignation of Max Milder as managing director for Warner Brothers in Britain is expected next week, it is understood, prompted by ill health, with Arthur Abeles, Jr., presently Milder's executive assistant, expected to succeed him.

C. J. Latta, who was transferred

(Continued on page 12)

WASHINGTON, July 1. — Television has not proved harmful to theatre box-offices, probably will not cause any noticeable loss of revenue, and may even be of ultimate benefit to the motion picture industry, said Charles P. Skouras, testifying as president of 20th Century-Fox of California at Federal Communication Commission hearings on the five applications pending for the two available San Francisco video channels.

The head of 20th-Fox's National Theatres gave diametrically opposed views to those expressed by Paramount vice-president Paul Raibourn when he appeared last week. Raibourn

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Peyser to Finalize Video Film Contract

Seymour Peyser, of the New York law firm of Phillips, Nizer, Benjamin and Krim, has been retained as counsel for the new National Television Film Council, it was announced here yesterday by Melvin L. Gold, NTFC chairman. Selection of Peyser was approved at a meeting yesterday of sub-committee chairmen Robert Pas-kow, television committee; Myron Mills, distribution; Sally Perle, press

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Strike At Mexican Studios Ends Quickly in Truce

Pathe Cinema May Produce in U. S.

Jacques Chabrier, president of Pathe Cinema of the U. S., will fly to Paris tomorrow to confer with the principals of the French parent company on plans for entering production and distribution in this country.

The company is already in exhibition here, building the first key city "showcase", to be called the Paris, opening in New York in the fall.

'U's 6-Month Net Drops to \$232,866

Universal Pictures' consolidated net profit for the 26 weeks ended May 1, aggregated \$232,866 after all charges, including Federal taxes. This compares with \$2,092,418 for the corresponding period of the preceding fiscal year.

Court Injunction Pointless: Griffith

OKLAHOMA CITY, July 1. — Asserting that Griffith Amusement will be responsible for any actions taken in violation of the U. S. Supreme Court ruling, Griffith attorneys argued before Federal Judge Edgar S. Vought today that issuance of an order restraining the company from buying or selling theatres without court permission was purposeless at this time.

Following today's hour-long session in connection with Assistant U. S. Attorney Robert Wright's request for an injunction against Griffith, the judge set September 20 for hearing of the request. The long recess is due to summer and the judge's vacation.

Griffith attorney C. B. Cochrane told the court that the injunction sought by the Government would "work extreme hardship on the company and accomplish nothing."

On May 3 the Supreme Court, reversing a "not guilty" verdict by Vought, found Griffith circuit and three affiliates guilty of conspiracy to

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Gov't in Move For Theatre Divorce Data

Interrogatories on Joint Ownerships Go to "Big 5"

First concrete move in its effort to obtain vital information on the theatre interests of the five major defendants in the Paramount anti-trust case was taken by the Government under the divestiture provisions of the U. S. Supreme Court decision yesterday when counsel for the companies here were served with interrogatories bearing on the joint ownership of theatre properties.

Here is some of the data sought by the Department of Justice in its attempt to test the legality of each joint theatre interest.

1.—Date of incorporation, state in which incorporated and location of principal office of each joint ownership.

2.—Name and address of each shareholder, with amount and class of

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NLRB Starts Probe At UA Here Today

Entry yesterday of a third disputant in the tilt over labor jurisdiction at United Artists' home office resulted in charges by AFL's IATSE Motion Picture Home Office Employees Local No. H-63 that CIO's Screen Office and Professional Employees Guild has established a "front" through which it seeks to circumvent H-63 in the latter's bid for a National Labor Re-

(Continued on page 2)

Rathvon Runs Studio Pending Board Meet

HOLLYWOOD, July 1.—RKO president N. Peter Rathvon has assumed full command of the RKO studio following the resignation of Dore Schary as production head yesterday. Schary left the lot immediately. No further changes of personnel are anticipated pending next week's meeting of the

(Continued on page 11)

No Paper Monday

Motion Picture Daily will not be published on Monday, a legal holiday in observance of Independence Day on Sunday.

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Personal Mention

ANDY SMITH, JR., 20th Century-Fox general sales manager, and **W. C. GEHRING**, assistant general sales manager, have returned to New York from Coast conferences. **CHARLES SCHLAIFER**, national advertising-publicity director, is remaining on the Coast for a few days.

TRACY BARHAM, vice-president and general manager of Intermountain Theatres, Salt Lake City, was married last week to **MARGY HARRIS** of that city.

HANK D. HEARN and **MAX REINHART** of Exhibitor's Service, Charlotte film buying-and-booking organization, will be at the Astor Hotel here for a week, commencing July 11.

JAY FINN of Boston has been named manager of E. M. Loew's Hartford Drive-in, succeeding **VINCENT O'BRIEN**, who was transferred to Boston.

LOU J. KAUFMAN, Warner theatre executive, has left here for Cleveland; he is due back on Tuesday.

SPYROS P. SKOURAS, 20th Century-Fox president, was in Washington yesterday.

FRANCHOT TONE is due here today from the Coast.

ITOA Urges Support Of Conciliation Plan

Support of all exhibitor organizations for 20th-Fox's conciliation plan to mediate exhibitor-distributor disputes, is urged by the Independent Theatre Owners Association, president **Harry Brandt** declared.

The ITOA "is anxious to institute this system with 20th-Fox in the New York exchange area," it was said. "With exhibitor-distributor relations deteriorating and the dam to a flood of litigations opened by the Supreme Court, we must prove that we are capable of working out our problems ourselves in a spirit of mutual understanding. There will never be any peaceful or harmonious solution of intra-industry problems by resorting to agitation, litigation or legislation," said Brandt.

NBC, CBS End 'Voice' Broadcasts on Oct. 1

WASHINGTON, July 1.—The State Department announced today that National Broadcasting and Columbia Broadcasting will withdraw from participation in the "Voice of America" programs after October 1. After that date, **George V. Allen**, Assistant Secretary of State, said, the programming is to be handled by the department. The Government will still contract with private companies to record the programs, he said, and will still lease transmitting facilities from private firms.

15,000 Theatres in 'IA' Victorious in Andy Smith Drive

More than 15,000 theatres in the United States and Canada took part in the "Andy Smith Anniversary Month" campaign. That result was disclosed yesterday in a final report to president **Spyros P. Skouras** by the division managers' committee which sponsored the campaign, including **Ray E. Moon**, **Jack H. Lorentz**, **Herman Wobber**, **Harry G. Ballance** and **Arthur Silverstone**.

The quarter produced a 13-week revenue 32 per cent in excess of the same period in 1947. Total feature sales for the first six months of 1948 ran 16.4 per cent ahead of the record year of 1946. Bookings for the first half of the year ran more than 40 per cent above the same 1946 period.

The drive brings to 873 employees of 29 branches at least one week's extra salary, with 801 of these receiving three weeks for their efforts in the drive.

\$350,000 Ad Budget For Babe Ruth Film

A total of \$350,000 will be appropriated by Allied Artists for advertising **Roy Del Ruth's** "The Babe Ruth Story," it was announced by **Steve Broidy**, president. **Buchanan and Co.** will handle the account.

Broidy, vice-presidents **Harold Mirisch** and **Edward Morey**, and general sales manager **Maurice Goldstein** are here to launch the campaign and also sales campaigns for **King Brothers' "The Dude Goes West," "16 Fathoms Deep"** and **"Michael O'Halloran."**

Democrats Will See U-I's 'Tap Roots'

PHILADELPHIA, July 1.—The Goldman Theatre, which ran a world premiere of "On an Island with You" to coincide with the Republican convention, plans the world premiere of "Tap Roots" on July 14, the week of the Democratic convention. **Al Horwitz**, Universal-International press agent, is in town working on a campaign.

Stars of the film, **Van Heflin**, **Julie London**, **Boris Karloff** and **Richard Long**, will make personal appearances at the opening.

New License Dept. Head

Until Mayor **William O'Dwyer** names a successor to former City License Commissioner **Benjamin Fielding**, who yesterday took over an executive position at Loew's, the New York license department will be headed by Deputy Commissioner **Patrick Meehan**. Several individuals, including **S. Jay Kaufman**, have been mentioned as possible candidates for the commissionership, which is closely associated with industry operations.

New 'U' News Quarters

Universal Newsreel will start operations from its new headquarters in the **Pathe Laboratories Building** here on Tuesday, having completed its removal from the **Film Center Building** during the past week, **Tom Mead**, editor of the reel, reported yesterday.

'IA' Victorious in U-I Election Here

Eighty-five per cent of the 427 "white collar" workers at the Universal-International home office, including employees of **United World and Castle Films**, U-I subsidiaries, have voted in favor of being represented by **IATSE Motion Picture Home Office Employees Local No. H-63** for collective bargaining purposes, it was reported here yesterday by "IA" international organizer **James Rogers** following a pre-negotiation election required under the **Taft-Hartley Law**. Only 62 workers voted in favor of "no union," **Rogers** said.

The "collarites" at U-I have been represented by H-63 for a number of years. **Russell Moss**, H-63 business agent, and U-I officials will begin negotiations soon on a new contract. **Moss** is said to be seeking cost-of-living and merit increases for the workers.

'H-63' Appoints New Organizer

Joseph Conlon, former international representative of CIO's Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union, has joined AFL's IATSE Motion Picture Home Office Employees Local No. H-63 here as an organizer, it was announced yesterday by **Russell Moss**, H-63 business agent. **Moss** said **Conlon** will work "exclusively on new organization."

NLRB Probe at UA

(Continued from page 1)

lations Board election among U.A. "white collar" workers. NLRB will begin an investigation of the charges today, it was said.

SOPEG unexpectedly did not appear at yesterday's conference at the NLRB office here. The conference, at which H-63 and U.A. were represented, was called for the purpose of setting a date for a U.A. workers' election. Also represented at the conference, but heretofore not connected directly in the dispute, was **Celia Schuman**, chapter chairman of the U.A. unit of **SOPEG** with which the company has refused to negotiate because the union has failed to comply with the non-Communist provisions of the **Taft-Hartley Law**.

Attorney **Sidney Fox**, representing **Miss Schuman**, requested that her name be placed on the NLRB ballot as an agent of certain U.A. employees. **Harold Spivak**, attorney for H-63, declined to agree to the request, charging that the new disputant was "fronting" for **SOPEG** which, as a non-complying union, cannot appear on the NLRB ballot.

Another NLRB meeting is expected to be called early next week following an investigation of charges.

P.S. Case, Altec Inspector

P. S. Case, Altec Service inspector in the New York district, died on June 26, the company announced here yesterday. Funeral services were held June 29 at the **Reformed Church**, South Branch, N. J.

Joseph Curtis, ANTA Bid for Belasco

WASHINGTON, July 1.—Two bids were received today and taken under advisement by the Federal Works Agency for leasing the Government-owned **Belasco Theatre**. One was from **Joseph H. Curtis**, son of **Columbia** vice-president **Jack Cohn**, the other bid was from the **American National Theatre and Academy**, which would use the house as a legitimate theatre. The **Curtis** bid did not state whether he would operate the **Belasco** as a legitimate or film theatre, but it was assumed that it would be legitimate.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
BING CROSBY **JOAN FONTAINE**
in **"THE EMPEROR WALTZ"**
Color by **TECHNICOLOR**
A Paramount Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

Paramount presents
JEAN ARTHUR
MARLENE DIETRICH
JOHN LUND
in **"A FOREIGN AFFAIR"**
Color by **TECHNICOLOR**
A Paramount Picture
MIDNIGHT FEAT. NIGHTLY

JOHN FORD'S MASTERPIECE
"FORT APACHE"
IN PERSON **LENA HORNE**
Special! **PAUL WINCHELL**
Extra! **SKINNAY ENNIS**
and his ORCH.
COOL **CAPITOL** B'way & 51st St.

Walt Disney's greatest star-and-song-show!
"MELODY TIME"
COLOR BY **TECHNICOLOR!**
Released thru RKO Radio Pictures
ASTOR B'way & 45th St.

RKO presents **'FIGHTING FATHER DUNNE'**
starring **PAT O'BRIEN** as **FATHER DUNNE**
VICTORIA B'way at 46th St.
Extra! **LOUIS VS WALCOTT**
FIGHT FILMS

DAN DAILEY
"Give My Regards To Broadway"
A 20th Century-Fox Picture in Technicolor
On Variety Stage—**THE ANDREWS SISTERS**
DEAN MARTIN and **JERRY LEWIS**
On Ice Stage—**CAROL LYNN** and **ARNOLD SHODA**
ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.



**With the knowledge
of continuous achievement...
with the assurance born of
showmanship supremacy...
20th Century-Fox
proudly presents**

THE WALLS OF JERICHO

PAUL I. WELLMAN



AUTHOR OF "JUBAL TROOP"

... the picturization of a great best-selling novel... destined to add more glory to the company already famous for bringing the greatest best-sellers to the screen... magnificently cast with four great stars... produced and directed in the tradition that has made



the hallmark of outstanding motion picture entertainment

here



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Cornel
WILDE



Linda
DARNELL



Anne
BAXTER

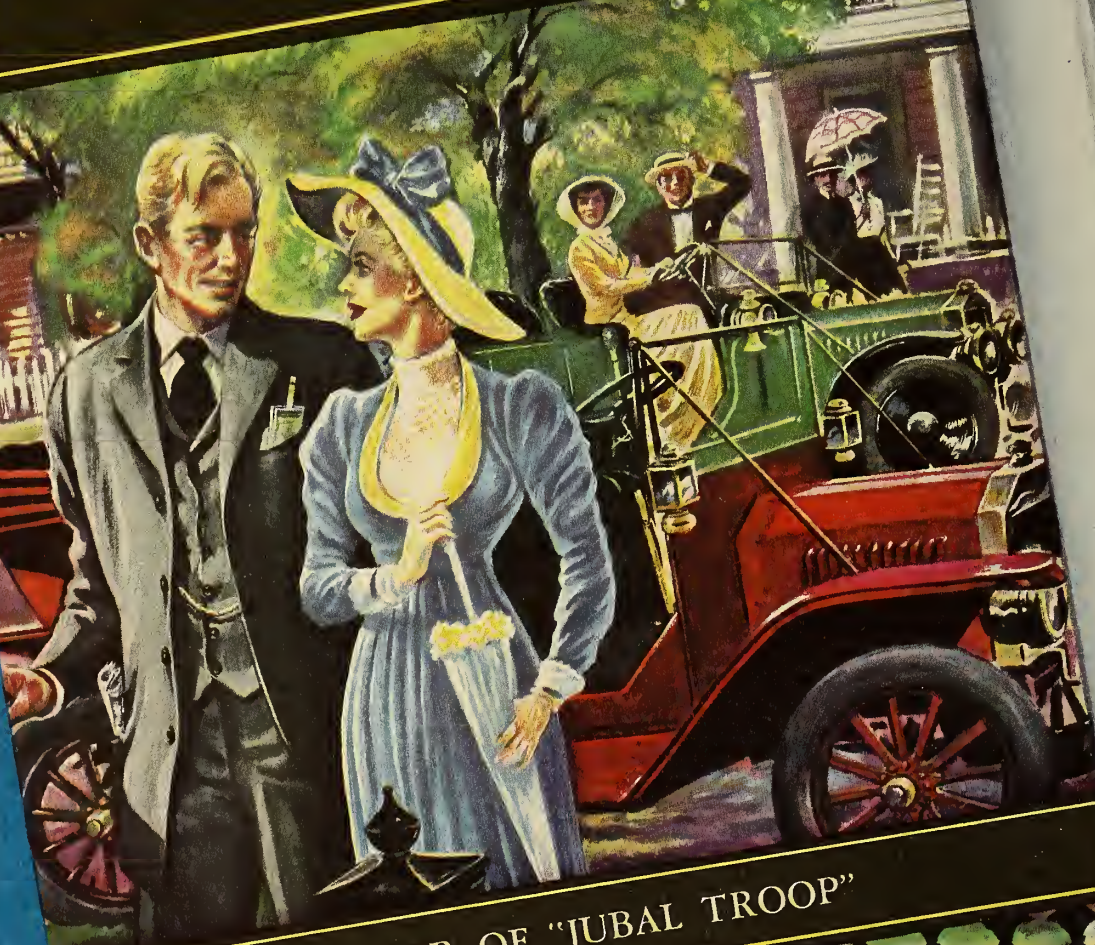


Kirk
DOUGLAS

THE WALLS OF JERICHO

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Cornel WILDE
Linda DARNELL
Anne BAXTER
Kirk DOUGLAS

THE WALLS OF JERICHO

with

ANN DVORAK

MARJORIE RAMBEAU • HENRY HULL

COLLEEN TOWNSEND • BARTON MACLANE

GRIFF BARNETT • WILLIAM TRACY • ART BAKER

Directed by **JOHN M. STAHL**

Produced by **LAMAR TROTTI**

Screen Play by Lamar Trotti • Based on the Novel by Paul Wellman



Loew's, 20th Report No Theatre Changes

There were no changes in their theatre holdings since the March 31 report, Loew's and 20th-Fox said yesterday in submitting their quarterly accountings to U. S. District Court here as required by the tribunal in its ruling in the Paramount anti-trust case.

Warner Brothers, in filing its report with the court yesterday, referred to its agreement with RKO for acquisition of the latter's interest in the lease of the Allen Theatre, Cleveland.

All three reports expressed the belief that the U. S. Supreme Court's decision created doubt whether the defendants were required to submit such statements to the court.

Skouras on Video

(Continued from page 1)

had stated that television was already exerting considerable pressure on motion picture theatre receipts.

Enlarging upon his opinion that there is no basic conflict of interests between video and films, Skouras declared that thus far television has not hurt box-offices of Fox theatres. "Personally, I don't think it will affect the box-office," he asserted, classifying television as just "an added source of entertainment for the public."

New Techniques for Video

Production of television programs for entertainment purposes will require the adoption of new and different production, direction and technical methods than those used for the production of films for theatre exhibition, Skouras said. If it is possible to produce good entertainment for pictures, then it should be equally possible to develop good entertainment for television also, he declared. But since the products would be different, Skouras added, they would not be competitive, nor prove harmful to one another.

Although production methods vary, Skouras explained under cross-examination, the mechanics of video and film-making operations were very much the same, and therefore motion picture producers are well qualified to engage in television. On the positive side, Skouras maintained that television can help theatre business through advertising, such as trailers.

Would Run Competitors' Ads

Under questioning, he said that any 20th-Fox television station would be willing to run trailers of attractions of opposition theatres at regular commercial rates. These ads would be just that much additional profit for the station, he declared. He did modify his stand that television would have no visible effect on the theatre box-office by admitting that the Louis-Walcott fight had reduced receipts in Fox theatres by 20 to 25 per cent. But, he added, any major national event hurts box-office, even though it is only broadcast. This factor, he said, is one of the chief reasons for planning television shows in theatres. When sufficient equipment becomes available, Fox will install television in as many of its theatres as possible, Skouras declared.

Spyros P. Skouras, 20th-Fox president and chairman of the board of the newly-formed California Video Corp., will take the stand tomorrow.

Rivoli Rockne Case Is Off to August 6

Chicago, July 1.—Hearings on the Rivoli Rockne \$900,000 anti-trust suit against the majors and some circuits here, which were scheduled today in Judge Sullivan's and Judge Igoe's U. S. District Courts, were further extended until August 6. Essaness theatres, also a defendant, was given until September 1 for a hearing.

Divorce Data

(Continued from page 1)

stock held and a description of the voting rights of each class of stock.

3.—Names, positions and duties of any shareholders who may be officers, agents or employees of the theatre company.

4.—Names of shareholders who owned or operated any film houses now owned and operated by the theatre organization.

5.—Names of shareholders, except the defendant, formerly interested in the ownership or operation of any houses other than those listed above.

6.—Date of acquisition of all shares in the theatre company held by the defendant, how they were acquired and the consideration paid for the shares.

7.—Date of sale by the defendant of any shares in the theatre company and the name and address of each purchaser and the consideration involved.

8.—Name, location, seating capacity and run of each theatre owned, leased or managed by the theatre company or for which the latter books films.

9.—The nature and extent of the defendant's interest in the theatre company and the date it was acquired, from whom acquired and the consideration involved.

10.—The nature and extent of interests held by others.

11.—A list of each acquisition claimed to be the "fortuitous result of bankruptcy or an innocent investment, unrelated to any restraint of trade or monopolistic practice."

This information is also sought by the Government in the instance of each joint ownership involving the defendants.

Griffith Case

(Continued from page 1)

monopolize exhibition in Oklahoma, Texas and New Mexico, and the high court asked the lower court to fashion a decree "which will undo as near as may be the wrongs that were done and prevent their recurrence in the future."

Today Vought asked Wright if it is possible that the Supreme Court has reversed its opinion in regard to one phase of the Griffith decision. He referred to a high court decision made after the Griffith ruling, in which a steel company monopoly ruling reportedly conflicted with the Griffith decision.

He also asked Wright if any action has been taken in the lower courts in meeting the Supreme Court mandate issued in the two other (Paramount and Schine) motion picture anti-trust cases. Wright said neither had been finally settled.

Video Film Contract

(Continued from page 1)

relations; Jay Williams, program, and Irwin Shane, bylaws.

Peyser's first efforts will be directed towards finalizing provisions of a standard exhibition contract for films on television, initial draft of which has been submitted by the distribution committee, and is now under consideration of the television committee.

Peyser will take steps on Tuesday at a meeting of the bylaws committee to draft bylaws for the organization.

Rathvon Runs Studio

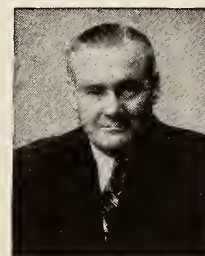
(Continued from page 1)

RKO board, which both Howard Hughes and Floyd Odlum will attend.

Production aides installed by Scharly continued on their jobs today. Scharly last night indicated he will take a month's vacation before deciding on his future course. Coming on the eve of the three-day shutdown for the holiday, a studio spokesman pointed out, the resignation poses no serious problem with respect to plant operations, pending the directorate's action.

11 'Grid' Stars in Film

HOLLYWOOD, July 1. — "Triple Threat," gridiron picture to be produced by Sam Katzman for Columbia, with Charles Schnee as associate producer, will have in its cast the following football stars: Sammy Baugh, Charles Trippi, Sid Luckman, Bill Dudley, Bob Waterfield, Paul Governali, Steve Van Buren, Jack Jacobs, Frank Danciewicz, John Clement and Paul Christman.



Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY correspondents. Estimates omit admission tax.

DENVER

Rainy weather over the weekend helped downtown first-runs. "Emperor Waltz" ties the record of "Blue Skies" at the Denham. Estimated receipts for the week ending July 2:

BERLIN EXPRESS (RKO Radio) and **ARIZONA RANGER (RKO Radio)**—ORPHEUM (2,600) (35c-74c). Gross: \$12,500. (Average: \$13,500)
BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—BROADWAY (1,500) (35c-74c). Gross: \$14,000. (Average: \$7,000)
EMPEROR WALTZ (Para.)—DENHAM (1,750) (35c-70c). Gross: \$24,500. (Average: \$11,000)
FUGITIVE (RKO Radio) and **FABULOUS JOE (UA)**—RIALTO (878) (35c-74c). After a week at the Paramount. Gross: \$3,000. (Average: \$3,000)
FULLER BRUSH MAN (Col.) and **PORT SAID (Col.)**—ALADDIN (1,400) (35c-74c) 2nd week, after a week at the Denver, Esquire and Webber. Gross: \$5,600. (Average: \$2,500)
LETTER FROM AN UNKNOWN WOMAN (U-I) and **ARE YOU WITH IT? (U-I)**—DENVER (2,525) (35c-74c). Gross: \$17,000. (Average: \$13,000)
LETTER FROM AN UNKNOWN WOMAN (U-I) and **ARE YOU WITH IT? (U-I)**—WEBBER (750) (35c-74c). Gross: \$2,000. (Average: \$2,000)
WINTER MEETING (WB) and **WOMAN IN WHITE (WB)**—ESQUIRE (742) (35c-74c). Gross: \$2,000. (Average: \$2,000)
WINTER MEETING (WB) and **WOMAN IN WHITE (WB)**—PARAMOUNT (2,200) (35c-74c). Gross: \$10,000. (Average: \$10,000)

H. C. Arthur, Jr.

president,
Fanchon & Marco,
says:

"DO YOU WAIT UNTIL YOUR CAR BREAKS DOWN?"

"It does not make any difference whether you are running a motion picture theatre or you are taking care of your own automobile. There are two ways to do it. You can let your car run until it breaks down on some important trip causing extreme discomfort to your guests who are with you and causing extreme embarrassment to you or you can keep it serviced and save money in ultimate repairs and replacements as well as wear and tear on your nerves and on those of your guests.

"You can run your projection equipment on the same principle until it breaks down. Whether it is your car or your theatre equipment, when it does break down, you will wish you had had a regular efficient service that would have saved you all of the trouble and ultimately the greater expense.

"Altec's service is assurance against breakdown. It saves against a

larger expense in the long run for repairs and replacements and it saves your patrons annoyance and discomfort; both ultimately affect your P. & L. To maintain the goodwill of your patrons and their regular attendance at your theatre, don't let your equipment break down. That is my advice. Altec will help you follow it."

Altec Service, known for its service "over and above the contract" is a vital ingredient of your theatre's ability to meet successfully the competition of other forms of entertainment. An Altec Service contract is the soundest long term investment an exhibitor can make today.

ALTEC
SERVICE CORPORATION

161 Sixth Avenue
New York 13, N.Y.

THE SERVICE ORGANIZATION OF THE MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

Reviews

"The Black Arrow"

(Edward Small-Columbia)

CLOAK-AND-SWORD melodrama is played for all it is worth in this Edward Small production based on the Robert Louis Stevenson novel. That means action without stint, heroics of the noblest order and villainy of the deepest hue. While the happenings are pretty obvious and not difficult to fathom in advance of their occurrence, the film does succeed in a fashion in recreating a medieval period with a fine display of excitement.

The production provides the exhibitor with an attraction especially made to order for action fans, the young ones in particular. The picture makes some concession to the ladies with one of those genteel, quite romantic affairs between Louis Hayward, the hero, and Janet Blair, the victim of an injustice righted by her knight in shining armor, literally speaking.

Hayward is a warrior returned from the War of the Roses to find his father murdered by his uncle (George Macready) in a conspiracy to seize his estate. He is told that Miss Blair's father killed his dad. When the truth strikes home, he defies his uncle and his henchmen, placing himself in peril of his life. In a trial by combat that gives the film a high-powered climax Hayward slays his uncle and claims Miss Blair as his lady. Capably produced by Grant Whytock, the film was vigorously directed by Gordon Douglas. Edgar Buchanan, Rhys Williams, Walter Kingsford, Lowell Gilmore and Paul Cavanaugh lend worthy support.

Running time, 76 minutes. General audience classification. Release date not set. P.E.L.

"The Timber Trail"

(Republic)

THIS Monty Hale Western, photographed in Trucolor, combines a variety of lively outdoor action scenes and a group of songs presented by the Riders of the Purple Sage. There are stagecoach holdups and fisticuffs with the hero, Monty Hale, triumphant.

Lynne Roberts is the attractive heroine, who employs Hale as a stagecoach driver. The wagons are being attacked as well as the telegraph stations, which are operated by the girl's uncle. Her father and uncle are engaged in a feud and each suspects the other when their businesses are held up by gunmen. The scheming thieves and murderers plan to take over the coach and telegraph companies. Hale discovers the identity of the leader of the gang, played by Roy Barcroft, who is captured. James Burke as the girl's father adds a comic touch.

Melville Tucker was associate producer. Philip Ford directed, from Bob Williams' original screenplay. Others in the cast are Roy Barcroft, Francis Ford, Robert Emmett Keane, Fred Graham, Wade Crosby, Eddie Acuff and Foy Willing.

Running time, 67 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, June 15.

Embargo

(Continued from page 1)

erated in London. Extension of MPEA's activities to Britain provides a control which could be exercised to the extent of withdrawing member companies from that market. Presumably, however, if the report is correct, the MPEA would not function as a sales organization but as a service organization, such as the role it will assume in Holland next fall.

Participants in the meeting indicated that further study is to be given to the entire British situation and, meanwhile, British reaction to the State Department's expression of "concern" over the new 45 per cent British film quota will be awaited. It was pointed

out that immediate action is not vital as the new quota does not become effective until next October 1.

Johnston Plans Visit To Coast in Mid-July

WASHINGTON, July 1.—Eric Johnston, Motion Picture Association of America president, is planning to visit Hollywood during the latter part of July. He will go to Spokane from New York for a brief vacation with his family and will return here in mid-July for a meeting of the Public Advisory Board of the Economic Cooperation Administration. He hopes to be able to leave for the Coast after that meeting.

Meanwhile, Edward Cheyfitz, Johnston's assistant, left here today by auto for the Coast by way of Toledo. He is planning to arrive in Hollywood in time for the July 13 meeting on establishment of an industry council on public relations.

Dallas Keys to Madison

Guy Madison, who stars in United Artists' "Texas, Brooklyn and Heaven," will be the guest of the City of Dallas on July 19 when the Robert S. Golden production will have its world premiere.

100 Theatres Renew RCA

CAMDEN, July 1. — Renewal contracts for service to 100 theatres in the Southern region have been signed by RCA, including Southern Amusement, Paramount-Richards, United Theatres, and Dixie Theatres.

Canada Rejects High Percentage from UK

Washington, July 1.—Quebec censors last year rejected a higher percentage of British films than U. S., according to the U. S. Commerce Department, which cites three British films out of 52 submitted, being rejected in full, and five Hollywood features turned down out of a total of 293.

Chief objection to U. S. films, the report says, are based on divorce scenes, infidelity, gangsterism, suicide and murder.

Arthur Abeles

(Continued from page 1)

here by Warner Theatres from his district manager's post in Albany, N. Y., will join ABPC, overseeing theatre operations in view of Warner's substantial holdings in that company. Up to now Milder had also acted for WB in ABPC.

Popkin Names Buchanan

Buchanan and Co. has been engaged to handle Cardinal Pictures' advertising by Harry Popkin, Cardinal president and executive producer. Popkin, who is also a California circuit owner, is in town to shoot exteriors for "Impact," second of 10 pictures for United Artists.

Warner Shuts Down Teddington Studios

LONDON, July 1.—Warner Brothers has closed its Teddington studios here owing to its inability to find independent British producers who want to use the studios' facilities, according to Arthur Abeles, Jr., executive assistant to Max Milder, Warner managing director in Britain. Teddington will reopen as soon as any independent producers seek to use it, he said.

Pointing out that Warner originally planned to produce two or three top-grade pictures for distribution and exhibition in America, Abeles asserted that the new British quota indicates that "what is desired is not quality productions, but quickies."

Warners own plans to produce at Associated British Pictures' Elstree studios when their reconditioning is completed remains unaffected by the Teddington shutdown.

Mexican Strike

(Continued from page 1)

asserted that progressively poorer business actually demands a wage cut of 40 per cent and a considerable reduction in personnel.

The truce is expected to yield permanent peace, with both sides making concessions.

New Giles House in Mass.

BOSTON, July 1.—Giles Circuit's new 1,000-seat theatre in Framingham will be opened shortly, according to John S. Giles, circuit operator.



All America is discovering and loving LOIS BUTLER in "MICKEY," Eagle Lion's heartwarming hit in Cinecolor! Paced by record day-and-date openings in Midwest, "MICKEY" is setting sensational grosses everywhere!

HEARING IS BELIEVING! We'll send you, absolutely FREE, Lois Butler's latest Capitol recording, "Dreams in My Heart." Write, wire or phone Exploitation Dept., Eagle Lion Films, 165 W. 46th St., New York 19, N. Y.

OF COURSE

"TEXAS, BROOKLYN and HEAVEN"

sent from UA

18 Telecasters Warn Para. On 'Pick-ups'

Advise Against 'Invasion' Of Democrats' Coverage

The 18 television stations which joined in a pool to cover the Republican National convention in Philadelphia last month and will join again in telecasting the Democratic conclave there next week, have served notice on Paramount that they will "take steps" if the film company reproduces the video pictures on the screen of the Paramount Theatre here, using the pool signals, as it did with part of the Republican meeting. Following a meeting of the telecasters, the "threatening letter" was sent on Friday to George Shupert, Paramount's director of commercial television operations, who would not comment.

The action was prompted by the Paramount's "unauthorized" pick-up of the Gov. Dewey acceptance speech at the Philadelphia convention, the theatre having taken the position that the convention was a matter of public information, and ignored the pool's rejection of its bid to join in the pool.

Paramount apparently will cling to
(Continued on page 5)

Video Now on Paying Basis: S. P. Skouras

WASHINGTON, July 5.—Television has now reached the point where it is both practicable and feasible to operate a station and have a reasonable chance of achieving a profit from the start, according to Spyros P. Skouras.

The 20th Century-Fox president, testifying Friday at the Federal Communications Commission hearings on his company's application for one of the two San Francisco video channels,
(Continued on page 5)

M-G-M Sets Program Of Shorts for 1949

Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer will have a program of 48 shorts for 1948-49, about the same as 1947-48, among them four two-reel specials, and the following one-reelers: 16 Technicolor cartoons (including the Tom and Jerry series); four "Gold Medal" reprint
(Continued on page 4)

F. C. Now Owns 30 Branches; Sets 1st Worldwide Meeting

Film Classics now owns 30 exchanges outright, all acquired in a year-and-a-half, Joseph Bernhard, president, disclosed at the weekend in a joint announcement with B. G. Kranze, distribution vice-president, of the company's first worldwide sales meeting, to be held at the Astor Hotel, New York, July 30-August 1. It will be the first time F.C.'s branch managers and division heads will meet as a unit since Kranze assumed his post early this year.

Kranze will preside over the meeting, which will also be attended by theatre circuit heads, leading independent exhibitors and officers of Cinecolor Corp., with which Film Classics is affiliated. Company foreign representatives will be on hand.

On the agenda will be Kranze's explanation of sales policy on the 34 new pictures scheduled for release during 1948-49. Half of this number will be in Cinecolor. The schedule also includes several reissues.

SRO Opens 4 More Key City Branches

Four additional branches have been opened in the field by Selznick Releasing Organization, Milton S. Kussell, distribution vice-president, reports.

New offices were opened in New Orleans, with W. Shiel, Jr., as sales representative; in Indianapolis, where H. L. Frost is sales representative, and James H. Kaylor is booker; in Albany, where Schuyler Beatty, Jr., was named sales representative, as previously reported here, and in Vancouver, B. C.

TOA Will Reconsider Forum at Next Meeting

The proposal for a Motion Picture Forum, dropped some time ago because of the industry anti-trust litigation, will be up for reconsideration by the Theatre Owners of America at its convention in Chicago in September, or at the next board or executive committee meeting, whichever of the three occurs earliest, according to Robert W. Coyne, retiring executive director.

Idea for the tribunal, at which intra-industry ills would be aired and

Must End Reich Film Trusts by July 8

Berlin, July 1 (By Airmail).

—The British Military Government has adopted measures taken by the Americans in an effort to end still-existing "motion picture monopolies" by July 8 at the latest. The decree issued by the AMG puts a ban on the formation of new monopolies and provides also that no one can hold a position in more than one branch of the German film industry.

The number of theatres that can be owned by one person also is strictly limited, and no company may own, or have an interest in, more than 10 theatres. With the formation of Trizonia, similar measures are expected to be taken by the French.

Final Building Code Hearing on July 21

ALBANY, N. Y., July 5.—What is expected to be the last of the public hearings revolving around the proposed new state building code has been scheduled by the State Board of Standards and Appeals for July 21 in the Empire State Building, New York City.

The new code provides for a number of changes in theatre construction and theatre maintenance, and, in consequence, many invitations to the hearing will be mailed to industry representatives throughout the state. Accompanying the invitations will be copies of the latest code revisions.

Assuming the code will be approved following the July 21 hearing, the belief here is that the document will be promulgated in the fall.

Rank's Rental Demands May Be Modified

He Is 'Surprised, Hurt' At UK Exhibitors' Blast

LONDON, July 5. — J. Arthur Rank's announced plan to secure much higher rental percentages from British exhibitors may be altered by the time he meets with the Cinematograph Exhibitors Association general council on July 14.

He has manifested surprise and hurt at the unanimous line-up of independents and American distributors against him and at the degree of passion and protest which was aroused by his attitude.

Rank, who successfully lobbied for a higher quota here for British pictures, met at the weekend with CEA general secretary W. R. Fuller and other CEA leaders and discussed with them his new buying terms which have been called onerous by the mass of British exhibitors. Rank insisted that no disclosure be made to the press
(Continued on page 6)

British Member of Control Unit Named

LONDON, July 5.—R. G. Somervell of the British Board of Trade, and P. S. Milner Barry of the Treasury have been named as the British industry's representatives on the Control Committee created under the terms of the Anglo-American film agreement. W. O. Newsam of the BOT will serve as secretary of the committee.

Appointment of Fayette W. Allport, London representative of the Motion Picture Export Association, and Thorkild Chris, London manager of the Bank of America, as the American industry's representatives on the committee was announced last week.

Stack Heads WB Sales in Britain

Appointment of Charles F. Stack as general sales manager of Warner Brothers Pictures, Ltd., in England, was announced simultaneously in New York and London at the weekend. He succeeds J. Walton Brown, who has retired after a lengthy illness. Stack
(Continued on page 6)

remedial efforts made, was first advanced by Fred Wehrenberg, TOA board chairman, late in 1946. Work on plans was suspended shortly afterward with the intention of reviving it following the U. S. Supreme Court's decision in the industry case, the thought at the time being that when the high court took action it would end the litigation.

TOA has yet to schedule its next board or executive committee meetings.

Newsreel Parade

ERIC JOHNSTON protesting the British film quota marks a newsreel highlight. Other items include the Deweys meeting the Warrens, as well as sports, fashions, foreign and local items. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 53—President of Venezuela welcomed by President Truman. Governor Dewey and family play host to the Warrens. Eric Johnston says British film quota is unreasonable. King Gustav marks his 90th birthday. Italy: artists "pave" streets with flowers. AFL union show in Milwaukee. Tyrone Power talks to graduating class at Tampa University. Sports: swimming, bike racing. Kids hold rodeo.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 287—U. S. planes rush to Berlin siege. What's with Tito. Swedish King marks 90th birthday. Deweys and Warrens "down on the farm." Eric Johnston protests British discrimination. Bathing beauties take summer spotlight. Kid wrestlers.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 90—France's turf classic. Remains of Col. David Marcus brought home for burial. Czechoslovakia: first Red president takes over. Fashion news: furs look ahead. Kansas City youths have junior government. Mt. Rainier summer skiers beat heat.

UNIVERSAL NEWS, No. 157—French village adopted by U. S. benefactors. Eric Johnston protests British film quota. U. S. war dead returned from Italy. President Truman presents medals to war heroes. Flower festival in Italy. The Deweys and the Warrens. Water queens in pre-Olympic test.

WARNER PATHE NEWS, No. 92—Jews and Arabs in Rhodes parley. Republican candidates on the farm. Churchill on Berlin crisis. French town adopted by U. S. benefactors. Eric Johnston protests U. K. film quota. New type spectacles for women. AAU women swim stars. Famous Americans: John Paul Jones.

Silverstone Promotes 3 in Overseas Posts

Three promotions in 20th Century-Fox International's field force have been made by Murray Silverstone, president of the 20th-Fox subsidiary.

Joel Hart, for the past two years assigned to the company's Chilean office, becomes manager of Peru, succeeding Charles Matzen who will be transferred to Europe. Thomas Sibert, for the past two years attached to the Mexico City office, becomes manager of Puerto Rico, replacing Andrew Jaeger who is on leave of absence because of illness. Donald McAfee, recently attached to the company's Barcelona office, is now in Mexico City.

20th-International Names Jaffey

Herbert Jaffey has joined the advertising-publicity staff of the 20th Century-Fox International Corp., it was announced here at the weekend by Leslie F. Whelan, advertising-publicity director of the subsidiary. Jaffey replaces Robert Olson who resigned to become associated with Transatlantic Films in England.

Para. Appoints Blair To Coast Ad Position

HOLLYWOOD, July 5.—Robert Blair, 26-year Paramount veteran, has assumed the post of West Coast field advertising representative for the company, covering Los Angeles and San Francisco territories. Blair formerly held a similar post in Seattle and Portland. He succeeds Ralph Ravenscroft, resigned.

Personal Mention

ARTHUR JEFFREY, Eagle-Lion exploitation director, returned here over the weekend from Moline, Des Moines and New Orleans.

CHARLES VIDOR and **MRS. VIDOR**, the former **DORIS WARNER**, daughter of **HARRY M. WARNER**, are parents of a second son, born at Cedars of Lebanon Hospital, Los Angeles.

JULES SCHWERIN, formerly of Loport Films publicity department here, has joined Film Program Services here as director of television and theatrical accounts.

CHARLES SIMONELLI, Universal-International Eastern exploitation manager, was in Des Moines from New York over the weekend.

F. J. A. MCCARTHY, Universal-International Southern and Canadian sales manager, will leave here today for Jacksonville.

JIMMY BELLO, Astor Pictures special representative in Atlanta, and **MRS. BELLO** have become parents of a son.

CLYDE GOODSON, Paramount branch manager in Atlanta, and **EDDIE FITZGERALD**, sales manager, are in Nashville.

JACK SYDNEY, publicity director for Loew's theatres in Baltimore, is vacationing in New York State.

S. R. KUNKIS, New York industry attorney, is due here Thursday from Europe on the *SS America*.

MICHAEL JACOBSON, manager of the Mayfair Theatre, Bridgeport, is en route to Los Angeles.

VINCENT CAPUANO, manager of the Warner Capitol in Danbury, Conn., is vacationing.

MATT JENNINGS has been appointed publicity head for Martin Theatres of Columbus, Ga.

Decision on 'Waltz' Extension Held Up

CHICAGO, July 5.—Hearings on Paramount and B. and K.'s motion asking for exception to the two-week Loop ruling on "The Emperor Waltz" were placed in abeyance on Friday by Judge Michael J. Igoe in U. S. District Court.

Thomas McConnell, Jackson Park theatre attorney, filed a petition Thursday asking for dismissal of the motion. McConnell argued Friday that there is no product shortage, while Alfred Teton, representing the defendants, asserted there was, the latter basing his arguments on behalf of the "Waltz" extension primarily on those grounds as well as that the film cost in excess of \$4,000,000.

The matter of jurisdictional rights of the District Court was also an issue.

Teton and McConnell were given three and five days, respectively, in which to file affidavits supporting their arguments.

ERNEST SCHWARTZ, president of the Cleveland Motion Picture Exhibitors Association, has been named to head the John D. Kalfat Memorial Fund, organized by industry friends of the late pioneer exhibitor to aid needy students at Western Reserve University.

ERNEST BARNES, who has managed theatres in New York and the Midwest, has taken over operation of the New Hartford Theatre near Utica, N. Y. C. A. CARLUCCI was the previous operator.

AL ROOK, former Columbia sales manager in Atlanta, has joined Eagle-Lion as special sales representative in Kansas City.

ALBERT LOURIE, former manager of the M. and P. Oriental Theatre, Boston, has taken over the Adams in that city.

RUDY BERGER, M-G-M Southern sales manager, has returned to his Washington headquarters from New York.

LES PETERSON, head of M-G-M radio activities at the Culver City studios, will leave Hollywood today for Chicago.

ROBERT NAIFY has succeeded **WALTER ARMSTRONG**, retired, as purchasing agent for the Golden State Circuit, San Francisco.

JULIA SMITH, manager of the State Theatre, Waterbury, Conn., has resumed duties after a long illness.

WILLIAM F. RODGERS, M-G-M distribution vice-president, will be in Buffalo Thursday from New York.

RUSS STEWART of M-G-M's publicity department here has left for a vacation.

SONYA LEVIEN, M-G-M writer, arrived here from the Coast over the weekend.

RKO Directors Head For Coast Meeting

Members of the RKO directorate have started to converge on Hollywood for a meeting of the board at the weekend. Among those making the trip are Floyd Odum, Ned Depinet, Harry M. Durning, Frederick L. Ehrman, L. Lawrence Green and George H. Shaw. N. Peter Rathvon is already on the Coast.

Among matters expected to be discussed by the board is a possible successor to Dore Schary, who resigned as the company's production head last Wednesday. Most of the board members will meet Howard Hughes, now in control of RKO, for the first time.

Jones Quits ARI

HOLLYWOOD, July 5.—Beverly Jones, chief client executive of Audience Research, Inc., here for the past two years, has resigned to concentrate on business interests out of the industry.

\$46,000 Alexander Bonus

COLORADO SPRINGS, July 5.—Alexander Film has paid a \$46,000 profit-sharing bonus to its salaried workers in the home-office and sales offices in key cities.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
BING CROSBY **JOAN FONTAINE**
in **"THE EMPEROR WALTZ"**
Color by **TECHNICOLOR**
A Paramount Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

Paramount presents
JEAN ARTHUR
MARLENE DIETRICH
JOHN LUND
in **"A Foreign Affair"**
in Person **JO STAFFORD**
plus **GEORGIE KATE**—THE LANE BROTHERS
Extra **SAM DONAHUE**
And His Orchestra
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE MIDNIGHT FEATS NIGHTLY

JOHN FORD'S MASTERPIECE
"FORT APACHE"
IN PERSON **LENA HORNE**
Special! **PAUL WINCHELL**
Extra! **SKINNAY ENNIS**
and his ORCH.
COOL CAPITOL B'way & 51st St.

Walt Disney's greatest star-and-song-show!
"MELODY TIME"
COLOR BY **TECHNICOLOR!**
Released thru RKO Radio Pictures
ASTOR B'WAY & 45th ST.

JACK CARSON **JANIS PAIGE**
DON DEFORE **DORIS DAY**
in **"ROMANCE ON THE HIGH SEAS"**
Color by **TECHNICOLOR**
A MICHAEL CURTIZ PRODUCTION
WARNER BROS. STRAND
OPENS 9:30 AM LATE FILM AT MIDNIGHT
LATE STAGE SHOW 10:15 PM • B'WAY AT 47th

THE DRAMATIC LOVE STORY OF
"I, JANE DOE"
A Republic Picture
STARRING
RUTH HUSSEY
JOHN CARROLL
VERA RALSTON
BRANDT'S COOL
GOTHAM B'WAY & 47th ST.

"RED RIVER"

...should be one of the top grossing pictures of all times!

— BOB O'DONNELL



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INTERSTATE CIRCUIT, INC.

☆ Majestic Theatre Building, Dallas, Texas ☆

May 24, 1948

Mr. Fred M. Jack
United Artists Corporation
1915 Elm Street
Dallas, Texas

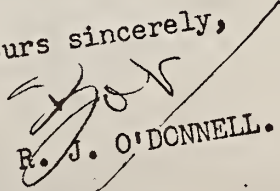
Dear Fred:

Have just had an opportunity to once again screen RED RIVER, and you will recall that we had an opportunity to screen this picture of Mr. Howard Hawks' last December.

At that time I advised you that in my opinion it was one of the great Western pictures of all times and was of particularly great importance to us here in Texas, being based upon the Saturday Evening Post story CHISHOLM TRAIL. My opinion of this picture is increased even beyond my first outstanding thoughts due to the fact that the picture has been tightened up and should be one of the top grossing pictures of all times.

My sincere compliments to Howard Hawks and to your organization for developing this great attraction.

Yours sincerely,


R. J. O'DONNELL.

Red Hot from UA

Dorfmann on Coast To Start Production

HOLLYWOOD, July 5.—Edmund L. Dorfmann, head of Edmund L. Dorfmann Productions, is here from New York to begin operations on a wide production program, including 32 reels within the next three years for United World Films, Universal-International subsidiary.

In addition, Dorfmann has financial interest in several independent features being produced for 20th Century-Fox and, in association with Laurel Films, he has film rights to "Guilty Bystander" and "A Young Man's Fancy," for which negotiations are under way for United Artists distribution. Dorfmann also is planning expansion of production for television and will make feature documentaries for the Protestant Film Commission.

Cohen and Landaiche Are Partners in SGP

ATLANTA, July 5.—After two years as local branch manager of Monogram Southern Exchanges, Babe Cohen has resigned, as of July 30, to return to his home town, New Orleans, where he will enter partnership with Ed Landaiche, owner of the Screen Guild franchise.

UK Fight Film to E-L

Eagle-Lion will distribute films of the Gus Lesnevich-Freddie Mills bout to be held in London on July 26 throughout the U. S. and Latin America. The pictures are expected to be in theatres here 36 hours after the fight, the company states.

Review

"Abbott and Costello Meet Frankenstein"

(Universal-International)

TO the usual stock of gags and slapstick hysteria associated with the first two gentlemen of the title there has been added now substantial helpings of the chills and horror which accompany the screen appearances of not only the Frankenstein monster, but (attention, you exploitation-conscious exhibitors!) Dracula and the hirsute Wolf Man of London. It all adds up to a field day for promotion men, with better-than-usual A. and C. grosses in the offing in consequence.

About half-way through this broad, unmitigated farce, as the stage is being set for a wild melee among the aforementioned principals, and some others in the recesses of a spooky Florida (!) castle, Bud turns to Lou and observes: "This is ridiculous!" With that remark the audience cannot fail to agree, but dyed-in-the-wool A. and C. fans and some other members of the audience might not agree on a definition for the word "ridiculous."

The screenplay, by Robert Lees, Frederic L. Rinaldo and John Grant, centers around Bela (Dracula) Lugosi's efforts to have Costello's "harmless" brain substituted for the destructive one which the Frankenstein monster has. Lon Chaney, who turns into the Wolf Man when the moon rises every night, is out to thwart Lugosi. The usual quota of well-milked A. and C. gags are, of course, sprinkled throughout the "plot." Cast is rounded out with Glenn Strange, Lenore Aubert, Jane Randolph, Frank Ferguson and Charles Bradstreet. Robert Arthur produced and Charles T. Barton directed, the latter with tongue in cheek, naturally.

Running time, 83 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set. CHARLES L. FRANK

MGM's Shorts

(Continued from page 1)

cartoons in Technicolor; 10 "Pete Smith Specialties"; six "John Nesbitt Passing Parades"; eight "FitzPatrick Traveltalks," in Technicolor, plus, of course, the customary 104 issues of News of the Day.

The company will continue to utilize its short subjects as a laboratory for the development of new talent and techniques, declared William F. Rodgers, distribution vice-president.

Snitz Heads E-L's Kansas City Branch

Eugene Snitz has been promoted from the sales staff to manager of Eagle-Lion's Kansas City exchange by William J. Heineman, Eagle-Lion distribution vice-president.

Snitz entered the film business in 1929 and had been with Universal and Columbia in various sales capacities before joining E-L in 1946. Previous to joining Eagle-Lion, he was in the army for three years.

Short Subject

"The Case of Mrs. Conrad"

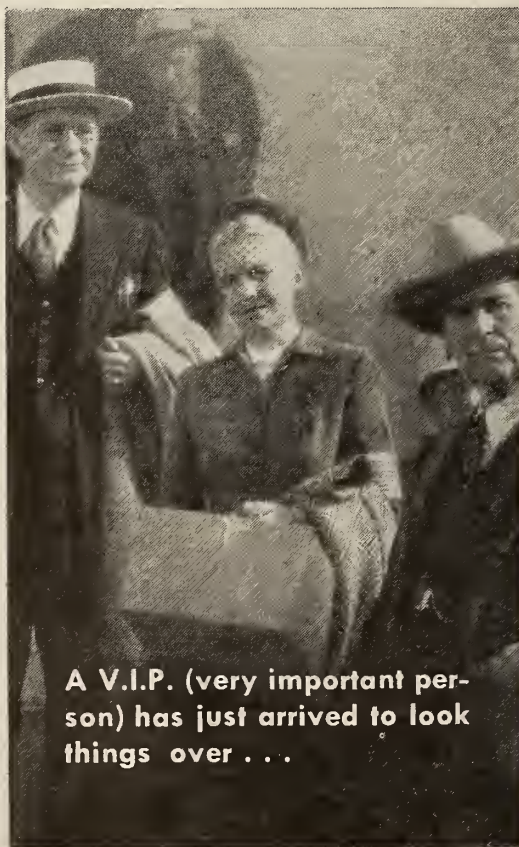
(March of Time—20th-Fox)

With the cooperation of the New York Academy of Medicine, March of Time brings forth an instructive, interesting and authentic film of the aspects of modern medical procedure. Taking the case of an ill woman, "Mrs. Conrad," the subject traces her entry into the hospital, the benefits of hospital plans, the exhaustive physical examinations, blood tests and analyses, the detailed preparation for and the successful completion of an operation, and the patient's recovery. In depicting modern medicine's thoroughness, which gives patients every possible chance for a successful recovery, the subject's end result will also do much to dispel many of the old-fashioned myths and superstitions of hospitalization and surgery which are still prevalent today. Running time, 20 minutes.

\$1,507,000 Set for Canadian Board Film

OTTAWA, July 5.—Following items were passed by the Canadian Parliament for this year's use of the National Film Board: General administration, \$181,443; technical services administration, \$89,467; production of films, \$735,000; distribution of films, \$772,000; production and distribution of other visual materials, \$128,000.

Picture Story No. 1
of Paramount's
romantic comedy
of all time
that September
Liberty Magazine
will call
"TOPS IN
ENTERTAINMENT"



A V.I.P. (very important person) has just arrived to look things over . . .



Jean's the V.I.P. and quite obviously she likes what she sees . . .

"A Foreign AFFAIR"

Skouras to FCC

(Continued from page 1)

stated that the present stage of progress and the prospects for even greater advances had brought about the decision that 20th-Fox would get into the field and stay in it, even though it means losing money at first.

Skouras said that he now regretted the withdrawal in 1945 and 1946 of the company's applications for television channels in New York, Boston and Los Angeles. He explained that the economic soundness of television had seemed doubtful at that time.

He confirmed the statements made the day before by his brother Charles that 20th was planning to expand theatre video presentations as rapidly as possible. He added that some \$250,000 were being spent for experimentation work with large-screen television by Fox in conjunction with RCA.

He also agreed with Charles that television is not and will not be a serious threat to theatre box-office, but should be classified as a different and non-competitive form of entertainment.

Features for Video 'Unsound'

Questioned about the availability of Fox films for video showing, he said that features would not be released for home consumption under the present system of distribution until they had run the gamut of theatre exhibition. Any other course would be economically unsound, he asserted.

He did contend, however, that television audiences would like features produced for theatre release. On this point he disagreed with the views expressed by Charles and by Paul Rai-

bourn, Paramount video head, both of whom had averred that the average film produced for theatre screening is not completely suitable for release to the home via television.

Skouras said that 20th-Fox intends to make special television features but pointed out that the cost of production of a motion picture for theatre exhibition is much too high for video.

Kahn Also Testifies

Irving B. Kahn, 20th-Fox radio director, followed Skouras, and, in the course of discussing proposed program schedules, declared that 20th already has produced several films for use on its television stations and is planning more. One type he described as a quiz show made up of scenes from well-known 20th-Fox productions; another is a mystery show.

The hearings seem certain to drag well into their third week, as two Fox witnesses remain to be heard, and CBS counsel Samuel Rosenman is expected to call a rebuttal witness for his claims.

FCC examiner Jack P. Blume declined to speculate as to when a decision might be expected, but from the volume of testimony which has been taken, it seems safe to assume that some time will elapse before the two channels are assigned.

Practices Code for Radio Now in Effect

WASHINGTON, July 5.—Radio's new standards of practice code is now in effect on all four national networks, National Association of Broadcasters president Justin Miller announced over the weekend. A few changes are still to be made and will be completed by Jan. 1, 1949, he added.

28 Video Stations Are Now Operating

Twenty-eight television stations are now in operation in the U.S., according to the Television Broadcasters Association. Construction permits granted total 83, while 287 applications are pending before the Federal Communications Commission.

16mm. Industry Gets A 'Code of Ethics'

A "code of business ethics," by which the 16mm. industry may "set its sights," and may be guided in general business practices, has been issued by the Allied Non-Theatrical Film Association.

The code was discussed and adopted at the recent ANFA convention. Its formulation was the work of a committee headed by E. E. (Jack) Carter, president of ANFA, and William F. Kruse, honorary president.

New WABD Department

Formation of a sales service department for DuMont's WABD, New York television station, and the appointment of Halsey Barrett, formerly head of station relations, as its manager, is announced here by Leonard Hole, general manager.

McDaniel a Sarnoff Aide

Glen McDaniel has been elected a vice-president of RCA to serve on president David Sarnoff's staff.

Telecasters Will Probe Film Methods

A production committee for research on problems of motion picture production, technics, practices and advancements most suitable for television has been appointed by Melvin L. Gold, chairman of the National Television Film Council, and advertising director of National Screen Service. The committee, which will be headed by Jack Glenn of March of Time, will include Gene Martel, president of the Screen Directors Guild; Joseph Josephson, of Jerry Fairbanks, Inc.; Nathan Zucker, Sono-Chrome Productions; Fred Rosen, producer for World Video and Henry Morley, general manager of J. A. Maurer Inc.

Gold also announced an addition to the distribution committee of Sam Gershwin, National Screen Service, and of Jose di Donato of Edward Petry Co., to the by-laws committee.

The latter committee, headed by Irwin Shane, will meet tonight with legal counsel Seymour Peyser to draft by-laws and set up an organization structure.

Video 'Pickups'

(Continued from page 1)

its original stand when the Democratic session comes, although there has been no official confirmation of this, and the general suspicion is that the theatre's audience will be given glimpses of the telecast. All of which appears to point to a forthcoming contest before the Federal Communications Commission, or in the courts, or both, on the right of a theatre to pick up telecasts for exhibition on its screen.



With goods so scarce, a guy is reduced to buying whatever's around . . .



But when the M.P.'s arrive, not even an Act of Congress can save him . . .

JEAN
ARTHUR
MARLENE
DIETRICH
JOHN
LUND
in
"A Foreign Affair"
with
MILLARD MITCHELL
Produced by **CHARLES BRACKETT**
Directed by **BILLY WILDER**
Screenplay by Charles Brackett, Billy Wilder, and
Richard L. Breen • Adaptation by Robert Harari

is a funny affair !!!

Japs Get US Films At Rate of 7-a-Month

WASHINGTON, July 5.—U. S. films are now arriving in Japan at the rate of about seven a month, and prints are being made for distribution to some 529 theatres, according to Japanese trade reports received in the U. S. Department here.

The reports state that receipts are divided on a 50-50 basis between exhibitors and the U. S. industry's Motion Picture Export Association, with the MPEA's share accumulating in a yen fund. U. S. films account for the bulk of imports, with a few coming from Britain, France and Russia.



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Reviews

"Partners of the Sunset"

(Monogram)

SEVERAL entertaining Western tunes are sung by Jimmy Wakely, accompanied by a string trio. Otherwise, "Partners of the Sunset" is a routine Western of murder, retribution and justice.

Story concerns a wealthy rancher who unwittingly marries a young girl seeking his money. The rancher's son leaves home and then is suspected of the murder of his father. Wakely, aided by his side-kick, Cannonball Taylor, eventually exposes the operations of the young bride and her partner and they are brought to justice. The son is vindicated. Produced by Louis Gray and directed by Kambert Hillyer, supporting roles are played by Christine Larson as the bride, Steve Darrell, the rancher, and Jay Kirby, his son. Original screenplay was written by J. Benton Cheney.

Running time, 53 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, May 6.

"Fric-Frac"

(Oxford Films)

SOME top foreign names, such as Fernandel, Arletty and Michel Simon, head the cast of this French importation. "Fric-Frac," however, is at best only a dreary and unfunny comedy of two thieves of the Parisian underworld who use Fernandel as an innocent dupe in their criminal endeavors. Further, it is a picture which reaches a new high in poor taste for suggestive actions and dialogue, particularly in one scene where the couple loll in the grass. They are so crudely handled as to insult even the broad tastes and acceptances of art theatre audiences.

Direction and production by Maurice Lehmann are routine, while the English translations of French underworld expressions emerge as colorless and trite American slang. It was adapted to the screen by Michel Duran, from a play by Edouard Bourdet.

Running time, 132 minutes. Adult audience classification. Set for June release.

"Nais"

(Sritzky International. French with English sub-titles)

FROM Emile Zola's story "Nais Micoulin," a tale of a simple country-girl loved by two men, a hunchback and a playboy, France's outstanding director, Marcel Pagnol here has fashioned an absorbing, romantic film. It is strictly adult fare because of suggestive dialogue and because of the problems with which it deals.

Fernandel is both moving and lovable as the hunchbacked simpleton with a golden heart. Jacqueline Pagnol makes a beautiful Nais; Henry Poupon, the father, conveys the necessary brutality, and Raymond Pellegrin makes a handsome lover. Pagnol directed and produced.

Art theatre audiences are certain to appreciate this offering, but it could be improved by cutting, especially towards the end. Performances are all excellent.

Running time, 105 minutes. Adult audience classification.

"Blind Desire" (La Part De L'Ombre)

(Discina International—French with English subtitles)

STARRING Jean-Louis Barrault, remembered for his excellent portrayal in the French film "Children of Paradise," this is at best only a routine romantic melodrama which has little to offer in the way of entertainment.

Barrault is a talented but impoverished violinist, who meets Agnes Noblet, daughter of a prominent musician. When the father discourages the violinist, to protect his daughter, they separate. During the next 20 years they meet several times but something always pops up to interrupt their marriage. Eventually they part for good. Jean Delannoy directed and Michel Safra and Andre Paulve produced.

Running time, 88 minutes. General audience classification. Current release.

Stack Named

(Continued from page 1)

was assistant sales manager and was promoted by Arthur S. Abeles, Jr., whose succession to the managing director's post was confirmed at the same time. Abeles succeeds Max Milder, who also resigned because of ill health, as reported here on Friday. Abeles was Milder's assistant. The latter had been with the company for some 25 years.

Rank's Demand

(Continued from page 1)

on what transpired at the weekend parley.

It was learned privately, however, that the CEA chiefs "laid on the line" the indignant protests of British showmen, and that's when Rank evinced amazement and hurt.

Maas to Tour MPEA Branches in Germany

Following distribution negotiations with Monopoly officials in Prague and Budapest, Irving Maas, Motion Picture Export Association vice-president, has arrived in Munich to begin an inspection tour of German branches with Marian Jordan, general manager of Germany, MPEA reports here.

Louis Kanturek, MPEA supervisor of Eastern Europe, participated in the lengthy confabs in Prague and accompanied Maas to Budapest for preliminary discussions with officials of the National Film Bureau, Hungary's newly-created film monopoly.

Following his tour of the German branches, Maas will return to Prague for continued talks with Monopoly officials and then proceed to Warsaw for conferences with executives of Film Polski.

Production Drops Nine Features, to 34

HOLLYWOOD, July 5.—The production index dipped to 34 from last week's tally of 43. Eleven films were completed while only two were launched.

Shooting started on "The Lovers," Columbia and "Little Women," Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer. Shooting finished on "Boston Blackie's Honor" and "Challenge of the Range," Columbia; "Man in the Morning" and "Command Decision," Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer; "The Last of the Badmen" (Allied Artists) and "Silver Trails," Monogram; "Grand Canyon Trail," Republic; "Brothers in the Saddle," RKO Radio; "Bungalow 13" (Belsam) and "Tucson" (Wurtzel), 20th Century-Fox, and "Countess of Monte Cristo" (Westwood), Universal-International.

John T. Madden, 66, Loew Personnel Head

Professor John Thomas Madden, 66, personnel director of Loew's, Inc., since 1943, died at his home here at the weekend. Services will be held today with a solemn high requiem Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral, New York, to be followed by burial at Gate of Heaven Cemetery, Morristown, N. J.

Born in Worcester, Mass., Madden came to New York in 1909 where he worked during the day and attended evening courses at the New York University School of Commerce. In 1925 he became dean of the NYU School of Commerce, Accounts and Finance. He was internationally renowned in the field of accounting.

Survivors include the widow, four daughters and two sisters.

Leon Leopold, 65

PHILADELPHIA, July 5.—Services were held here yesterday for Leon Leopold, manager of the Walnut Street Theatre here and brother of comedian Ed Wynn. Leopold, who had been in the motion picture business for 25 years, died at the age of 65 on Thursday at his home here. He started in the sales department of the Fox Film Exchange, later becoming an auditor for the Shubert interests. He had been manager of the Walnut for the past five years. In addition to Wynn, survivors include the widow and a daughter in Los Angeles.

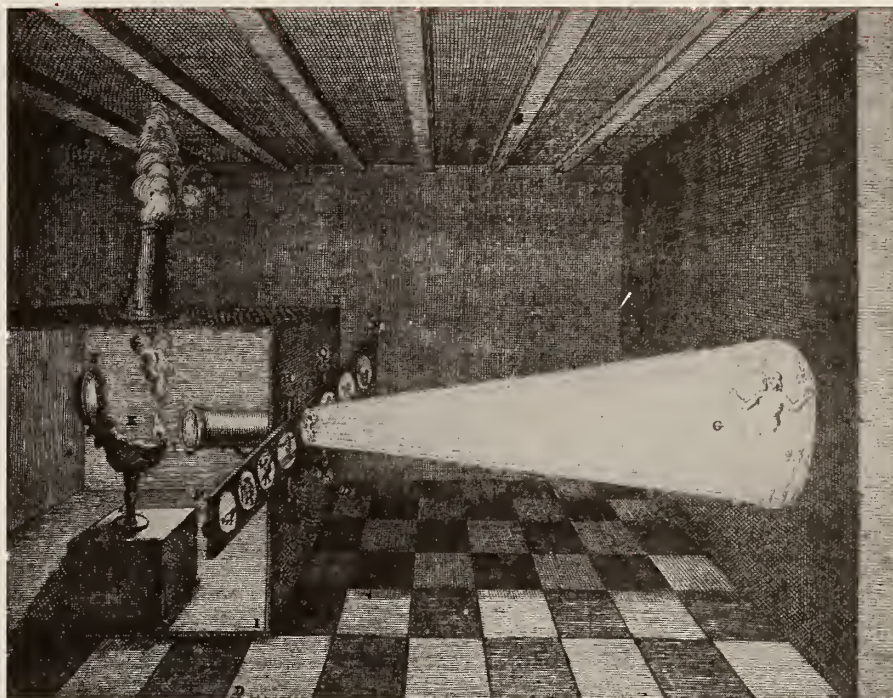
Tax Bill Postponed

WASHINGTON, July 5.—Theatre owner protests have forced the Harrisonburg, Va., City Council to put off until July 13 a decision on a 10 per cent admission tax.

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and
HEAVEN"
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RKO ORPHEUM Minneapolis

RKO ORPHEUM St. Paul



**GET ON THE BANDWAGON N-O-W
WHILE THE KIDS ARE HOME ON VACATION!**

See Extension Of Conciliation Plan to Others

No Grievances Filed as Yet in NCA Territory

MINNEAPOLIS, July 6. — North Central Allied has received indications that other major distributors "are interested" in the conciliation plan worked out recently by A. W. Smith for 20th-Fox with NCA, headed by Bennie Berger and Stanley Kane. Under the plan, exhibitor grievances would be adjudicated in conferences between local exchange managers and a special NCA grievance committee.

A top executive of one distributing company is understood to have telephoned NCA seeking further information on the working details of the plan, and indicated a willingness to immediately enter similar negotiations.

The conciliation agreement bans complaints or grievances of a private or personal nature, and the committee will not attempt in any manner to negotiate contracts.

Meanwhile, no complaints have been filed as yet with the 20th Century-Fox branch manager by the new grievance board, adding that "it is not known

(Continued on page 8)

Pa. Allied Is Cool To Conciliation Plan

PHILADELPHIA, July 6.—Eastern Pennsylvania Allied "has not and probably will not approve the so-called conciliation plan" effected by 20th Century-Fox and North Central Allied, according to "an official announcement" released here today by Sidney E. Samuelson, general manager of the affiliate of National Allied, which favors the plan.

"Independent exhibitors in this territory have many deep-seated and

(Continued on page 8)

5th-Walnut Will Bid For Reversal Friday

Fifth and Walnut Amusement Co. on Friday will make its initial attempt to regain victory from defeat in its anti-trust suit from which a jury of 12 in U. S. District Court dismissed distributor-defendants in a verdict returned on June 29.

Plaintiff's counsel, Monroe E. Stein,

(Continued on page 8)

Griffis in Turkish Ambassador's Post

Washington, July 6.—Stan-ton Griffis, former Ambassador to Poland, momentarily will be named by the White House as Ambassador to Turkey.

Prior to entering the diplomatic service, Griffis was chairman of the executive committee of Paramount.

113 More Houses in Canada; Total 1,606

WASHINGTON, July 6. — Quoting Canadian Film Board of Trade figures, the U. S. Commerce Department here reports that at the beginning of 1948 there were 1,606 film theatres in Canada, an increase of 113 over the number at the same time in 1947. Another 100 are being constructed.

A study made by the Commerce Department's film consultant, Nathan D. Golden, shows that attendance in the Dominion dropped about 15 per

(Continued on page 6)

'Babe Ruth Story' At Astor July 26

"The Babe Ruth Story," Allied Artists release, will open its New York run at the Astor Theatre here on July 26. Louis Lifton, advertising-publicity director for AA-Monogram, returned to New York from Hollywood yesterday to launch the campaign.

'Waltz,' 'Parade,' 'Affair' Soar As Grosses Vary Here

Business at Broadway's first-runs this week is a matter of extremes. Sunny skies over the extended Independence Day weekend had New Yorkers thronging to beaches and resorts, while out-of-towners who had poured into the city for the holiday gravitated toward the bigger Broadway houses for entertainment. Hence, with out-of-towners more or less the determining factor this week, where several theatres are enjoying peak business others are in doldrums.

At Radio City Music Hall business is sensational in the third week of "The Emperor Waltz," plus a Leonidoff stage presentation, and on the basis of \$116,500 taken in over a weekend embracing five days, a mammoth \$156,000 is expected for seven.

Doing very smart business in its first week at the Paramount is "A Foreign Affair," with singer Jo Stafford heading a stage bill; \$92,000 is due for the week. The Paramount and some of the other larger Broadway houses ran an extra show on Monday to accommodate increased patronage.

"Give My Regards to Broadway," plus an ice show on stage, will give the Roxy a big \$100,000 for a second week. The Andrews Sisters, who have been heading the Roxy stage bill, were called to the Coast suddenly last Saturday, and until they return to complete their engagement the theatre's top price of \$1.80 has been cut to \$1.50.

A healthy \$105,000 is in store for

(Continued on page 8)

House Group Will Probe Film Industry

Allied and SIMPP Aid Small Business Unit

WASHINGTON, July 6.—The motion picture industry will definitely be one of the key industries checked into by the House Small Business Committee's investigation of monopoly and anti-trust law enforcement, a top committee official said here today.

Willis J. Ballinger, the committee's economic counsel and with Committee Chairman Ploeser the man doing most of the planning of the investigation, said "we will definitely go into films, both from the point of view of the exhibitor and the independent producer."

Ballinger declared the committee will "go into everything which the ex-

(Continued on page 6)

Allvine Named Aide To Candidate Dewey

ALBANY, N. Y., July 6.—Gov. Thomas E. Dewey's Presidential campaign team, identified today, includes Glendon Allvine, former New York public relations director for the Motion Picture Association of America, who will work for the candidate in the motion picture, newsreel and television fields. Allvine has toured the country in past weeks with a camera crew filming campaign material for 16mm., 35mm. and television outlets.

Allvine has an extensive background

(Continued on page 8)

Believe Douglas Can Help Ease UK Quota

WASHINGTON, July 6.—If anyone can ease the British quota situation, it is U. S. Ambassador to London Douglas, in the opinion of U. S. Government officials and industry spokesmen here. It is only a matter of Douglas' being free to work on the matter, it was stated.

Preoccupation with the tense Berlin situation has prevented the Ambassador from making any substantial progress on the British quota situation, it was believed.

Propose a United Front For NY State Theatres

A move to bring New York State exhibitors into one group for public relations, legislation and other mutually beneficial programs has been made by the Metropolitan Motion Picture Theatres Association which has plans for a meeting to be held late this month of the state's representative theatre men.

The plan, for the most part yet to be fully drawn, is to coordinate the activities of the state's showmen in promoting favorable legislation and combatting possible adverse bills, as well as contributing to the welfare of exhibition in New York.

It is understood that D. John Phillips, executive secretary of the MMPTA, has sent invitations to exhibitors around the state to attend the meeting, with specific date and place to be determined later.

Preliminary Meeting Today by RKO Board

HOLLYWOOD, July 6.—Preliminary meetings of the RKO board of directors are expected to get under way tomorrow following the arrival of Floyd Odium and Ned Depinet tonight. Other members of the board are due tomorrow.

It is reported here that Odium, who sold his controlling interest in RKO to Howard Hughes, will retain the board chairmanship, but these reports are unconfirmed. It is understood that Odium and Hughes will confer privately before the meetings start.

High on the agenda of the board's deliberations will be the appointment of a successor to Dore Schary, who resigned last week.

Carole Landis, 29, Dies in Hollywood

HOLLYWOOD, July 6.—Carole Landis, 29, film actress, was found dead yesterday in her home in Brentwood. Her death was apparently suicide.

Miss Landis, who was born in Fairchild, Wis., on Jan. 1, 1919, came to Hollywood in 1934 to appear as a chorus girl in "Varsity Show" and subsequently in "Blondes at Work" and "Hollywood Hotel." Later films in which she appeared were: "Road Show," "Topper Returns," "I Wake Up Screaming," "Manila Calling," "Orchestra Wives" and "My Gal Sal," and more recently in "Having Wonderful Crime," "It Shouldn't Happen to a Dog," "A Scandal in Paris" and "Behind Green Lights." She rose to stardom in the Hal Roach production, "One Million B. C." During the war she toured overseas camps to entertain servicemen as well as aiding in war bond sales in the U. S. Miss Landis also was active with the American Cancer Society.

Para.'s Palugay Is Dead in Spain

Word of the death in Spain of Nicholas G. Palugay, Paramount's manager there, was received at the company's home office here yesterday. With Paramount for 23 years, Palugay was stricken en route from Madrid to Barcelona on business.

The company cited Palugay for his success in protecting Paramount's interests during the German occupation of Bulgaria, where he was serving as manager at the time. After the war he joined the Motion Picture Export Association in a similar capacity. He was appointed to the Spanish post in 1946. The widow and two daughters survive.

Sam Kaplan, 59

Funeral services were held here Sunday for Sam Kaplan, 59, founder of the Sam Kaplan Manufacturing and Supply Co., which became the Century Projector Corp. in 1923. Kaplan, who was also an executive board member and former president of IATSE Local No. 306, retired as general manager of Century Projector in May, 1945. He died last Thursday at his home in Brooklyn. Survivors include the widow and two sons.

Edward F. McClellen

BOSTON, July 6.—Edward F. McClellen, industry attorney here for many corporations, including Loew's and M. and P. Theatres, New England, died at the Cape Cod Hospital at Hyannis last Friday.

J. Frank Mednick, 57

LOS ANGELES, July 6.—J. Frank Mednick, 57, owner of the Latosca and Troujan theatres, died here yesterday in Cedars of Lebanon Hospital. Survivors include the widow and a son.

No M.&P. Price Cuts

BOSTON, July 6.—M. and P. Theatres is not contemplating any reductions or other changes in admission prices for any of its houses, according to M. and P. executives.

Personal Mention

ANDREW W. SMITH, JR., 20th-Fox general sales manager; W. C. GEHRING, assistant sales manager; MURRAY SILVERSTONE, president of 20th Century-Fox International Corp., and CHARLES SCHLAIFER, director of advertising-publicity, have returned to New York from Hollywood studio conferences.

ROBERT C. McMAHON, assistant to Warner studio attorney ROY OBRINGER, and MRS. McMAHON have become the parents of a daughter, born at St. Vincent's Hospital in Los Angeles.

F. W. ALLPORT, Motion Picture Association of America's London representative, flew to Paris last night to confer with GERALD MAYER, MPAA international division director.

WILLIAM Z. PORTER, Monogram-Allyed Artists contract department head in the West, left Hollywood yesterday for a Midwest tour.

FRANK FLOOD of Warners Theatres' New Haven zone has been appointed Connecticut adjutant of AMVETS, veterans' organization.

MILTON S. KUSELL, Selznick Releasing Organization distribution vice-president, left here yesterday for the Coast.

MARLYN KNOLL, secretary to M-G-M Southern sales manager RUDY BERGER, is here from Washington on vacation.

HARRY WELSH, publicity director for the Hicks Circuit in Baltimore, is visiting his father in Hollywood.

ROBERT PIK, president of Inter-World Films here, will leave New York this week for Europe.

FRED QUIMBY, M-G-M short subjects production head, is due here on July 19 from the Coast.

NBC Promotes Denny

Charles R. Denny has been promoted from vice-president and general counsel of National Broadcasting to executive vice-president, by Niles Trammell, president of the network. His successor in the legal post is Gustav B. Margraf, attorney, who has represented NBC in Washington since 1942.

Maryland Theatre Sold

BALTIMORE, July 6.—The Maryland Theatre, 45-year-old playhouse here, has been sold for \$79,500 at public auction to Michael Fox, head of a local realty company. The Maryland was owned by the late C. William Hicks, founder of a Baltimore theatre circuit.

Edmunds in KATO Post

LOUISVILLE, July 6.—John Edmunds has been named contact man for the Kentucky Association of Theatre Owners.

JOSEPH HAZEN, president of Hal Wallis Productions, accompanied by his wife and two daughters, has arrived in Hollywood from New York.

JOAN WOBBER, daughter of 20th Century-Fox distribution executive HERMAN WOBBER, and MARSHALL NAIFY, United California Theatres executive and son of MICHAEL NAIFY, have become engaged on the Coast.

JEAN HERSHOLT, president of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, has arrived in London from Denmark.

WILLIAM O'BRIEN of M-G-M's advertising production department here returned to his desk yesterday after a lengthy illness.

PERRY LIEBER, RKO Radio studio publicity director, has returned to the Coast from New York.

CHARLES LEDERER, screenwriter, has returned to Hollywood from New York.

GRADWELL SEARS, United Artists president, flew to the Coast over the weekend from New York.

SAM WHEELER, Film Classics division manager, is due in San Francisco this week from Los Angeles.

CHARLES SAMUELS, Motion Picture Magazine writer, has left here for Hollywood.

BERNARD GATES, Monogram Latin-America supervisor, is in Panama from Mexico City.

CHARLES J. MCWEENEY of Monogram International was married recently to CLAIRE BAMBACH.

SIDNEY A. FRANKLIN, M-G-M producer, is due here July 21 from the Coast en route to Paris.

Para. Case Figures In Video Hearings

WASHINGTON, July 6.—Paramount and 20th Century-Fox, along with three other applicants, have settled down to a long wait for the Federal Communications Commission decision on allocation of two remaining television channels for San Francisco.

Hearings ended here last Friday night. A decision is not anticipated before the fall at the earliest. One of the last actions at the hearing on Friday was for 20th-Fox to file its version of the litigation record in the Paramount case. Paramount must still file its version. Both documents were requested by FCC examiner Jack Blume, who presided over the hearings. There has been some speculation that the Supreme Court's decision in the Paramount case might weight the FCC against the two film companies. Other applicants for the channels are independent station KROW, Columbia Broadcasting System, and Ed Pauley's Television California.

Newsreel Parade

POPE PIUS addressing workers in Rome, and kids at home setting up a junior government are current newsreel highlights. Events of national and international scope, human interest stories and assorted sports round out the reels. Complete contents follow:

MOVIE TONE NEWS, No. 54—Latest films of East-West Berlin Crisis. Pius hailed by vast throng of workers in Rome. Secretary Royall tells how law will work. Youngsters learn about government in "junior city." Sports: racing, fishing, boxing.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 288—Pope warns labor against Red plotters. British royalty goes to the fair. Get ready for the draft. Junior city teaches good government. Porpoise hunt a deep sea thriller. Racing.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 91—France's turf classic. Hero of Israel brought home for burial. Czechoslovakia: first Red president takes over. Fashion news: furs look ahead. Good government, junior style. Summer skiers beat the heat.

UNIVERSAL NEWS, No. 158—Warship joins "mothball fleet." Col. David Marcus' body returned home. Prince of Japan visits U. S. school. Check for \$7,000,000 signed by Secretary Snyder. Miniature auto assembly line in Spain. Kids build junior city. Japanese swimmer sets record. Skiers beat summer heat.

WARNER PATHE NEWS, No. 93—Warren girls in New York. Greek children evacuated. West Point rites for Haganah hero. Red exiles find U. S. refuge. Kids set up junior city. Meet the duck from down under. Racing.

33½ Per Cent Boost In NBC Video Rates

Representing an increase of 33½ per cent, effective Oct. 1, 1948, National Broadcasting's New York television station, WNBT, has issued a new rate card providing for a base hour evening time charge of \$1,000 to apply during Class A time (six to 10:30 P.M.), compared with the present rate of \$750. Similar boosts will be effected at the same time by NBC television network stations.

At WNBT, three-quarters of the base rate will buy Class B time (five to six P.M., Monday through Friday; one to six P.M. Saturday and Sunday, and 10:30 to 11 P.M., Sunday through Saturday). One-half the base hour rate will apply at all other times.

To Examine Sales Heads

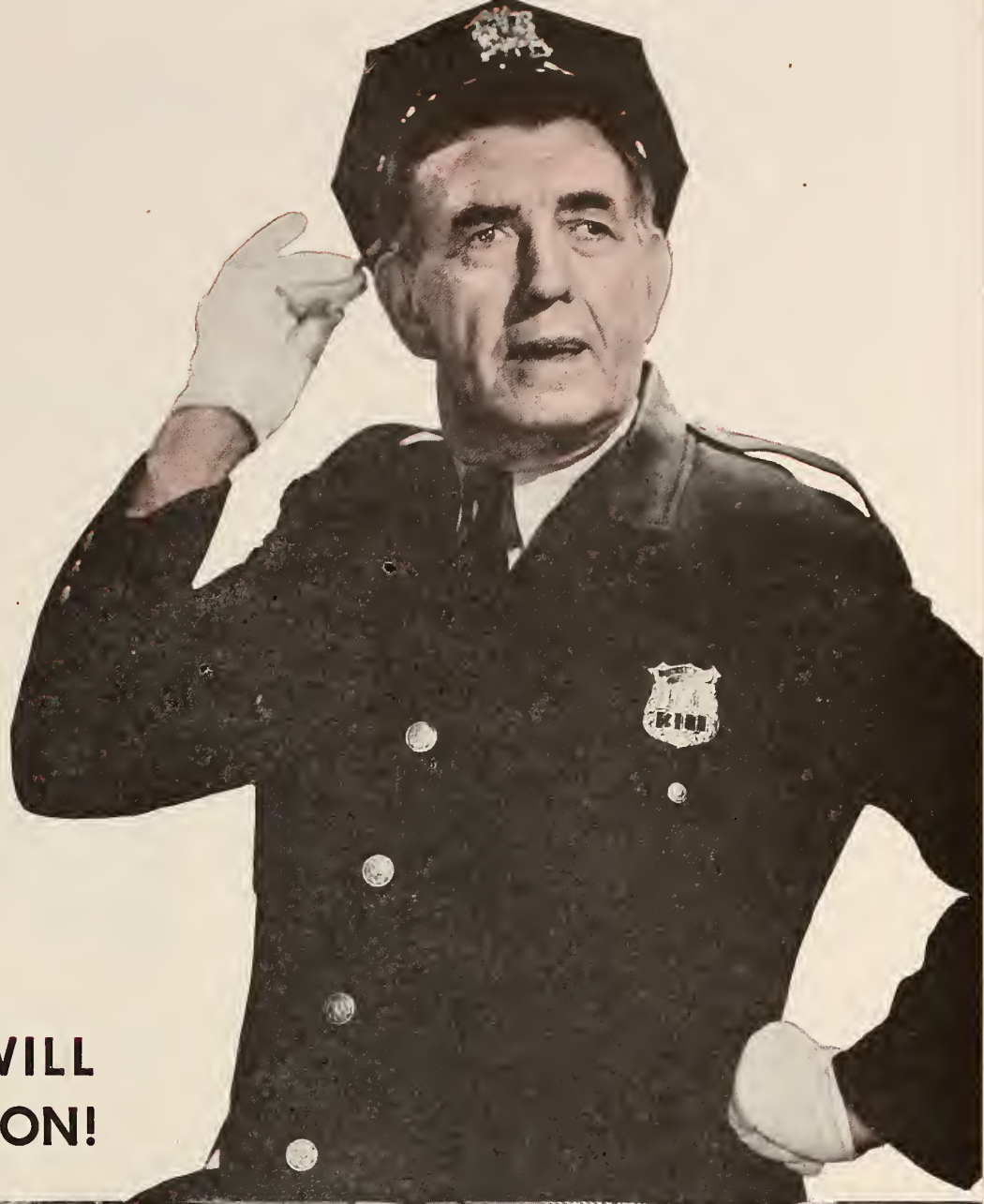
Charles R. Reagan, Paramount distribution vice-president; William F. Rodgers, Loew's distribution vice-president, and others, will be examined in U. S. District Court here on July 15 and 16 in connection with the Dipson Theatres anti-trust action which has been pending in Buffalo against Buffalo Theatres and eight distributors.

Brandt Hearing Friday

Paramount's motion whereby the company seeks to eliminate eight of the 160-odd defendants from its \$563,265 percentage action against Brandt Theatres, et al, and which would include eight new defendants, will be heard in Supreme Court here on Friday. Hearing was postponed from yesterday.

"GOSH! AN EASTER PARADE IN JULY!"

That's what the cops at 45th Street and Broadway are saying as crowds of people block traffic at Loew's State Theatre to see M-G-M's presentation of Irving Berlin's "EASTER PARADE." New records! New box-office lines never before witnessed in the 27-year history of this theatre!



THE PARADE THAT WILL SOON SPAN THE NATION!



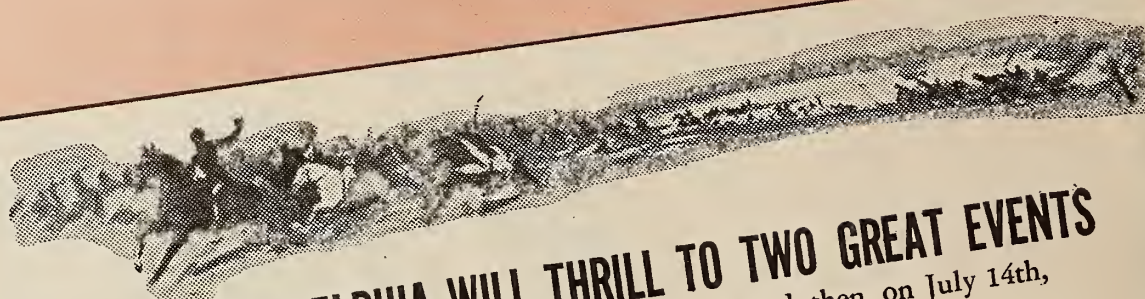
NEW RECORDS!

M-G-M presents IRVING BERLIN'S "EASTER PARADE" • Starring JUDY GARLAND • FRED ASTAIRE • PETER LAWFORD • ANN MILLER Color by TECHNICOLOR Screen Play by Sidney Sheldon, Frances Goodrich and Albert Hackett • Original Story by Frances Goodrich and Albert Hackett Lyrics and Music by Irving Berlin • Musical Numbers Directed by Robert Alton Directed by CHARLES WALTERS • Produced by ARTHUR FREED • An M-G-M Picture

"'EASTER PARADE' is launching Loew's State as the home of important pictures. The boys certainly picked a humdinger!"

—N. Y. World-Telegram

Announcing A GREAT



SOON PHILADELPHIA WILL THRILL TO TWO GREAT EVENTS
The Opening of the Democratic Convention, and then, on July 14th,
the **WORLD PREMIERE** of
Walter Wanger's Technicolor Triumph

"TAP ROOTS"

Just as Philadelphia takes pride in being the Convention site, so we of the William Goldman Theatres take particular joy in announcing Philadelphia's most important motion picture event in many years!

As part of the celebration a host of Hollywood's most glamorous names, headed by stars like Van Heflin, Julie London and Boris Karloff, will soon arrive in Philadelphia to take part in a series of special events, climaxed by their appearance at the gala World Premiere on July 14th!

"Tap Roots" has already been called "A BREATHTAKING PEAK IN FILM ENTERTAINMENT"...and no wonder:

To its vibrant love story is added the thrill of gripping action—the glory of brilliant color by Technicolor—and above all, fabulous production and splendor of a type you haven't seen on the screen for a long time.

Don't forget the date—
July 14th at the

GOLDMAN THEATRE
15th and Chestnut Streets

You Will Never Forget
This Picture!



Here's the ad that opened Philadelphia's all-out newspaper campaign... with a day-after-day build-up to powerful full-page blasts on world premiere day.

EVENT FOR PHILADELPHIA

...and for Exhibitors Everywhere!

On July 14th, Philadelphia will thrill to two great events. Sharing the excitement of the Democratic National Convention, Walter Wanger's Technicolor triumph, "Tap Roots," will have its gala World Premiere at the Goldman Theatre, with day-and-date premieres throughout the territory.

Personal appearances by a Hollywood cavalcade, headed by Van Heflin, Julie London, Boris Karloff and Richard Long, will launch Philadelphia's most important motion picture event in many years.

A thousand leading correspondents of the nation's press and radio, covering the Convention, will attend a special midnight preview of "Tap Roots" . . . Top national radio programs will salute "Tap Roots" over ABC, CBS and Mutual networks . . . Full page national magazine and newspaper ad tie-ups with Chesterfield, General Electric and Lux have been timed for the premiere.

It all adds up to tremendous selling power for "Tap Roots" when it plays your house!

Compared with "G. W. T. W." by Trade Press!

Front-paged in MOTION PICTURE DAILY: "One for the money—and plenty of it. A big show handled in a big way, this attraction is one of the most ambitious since 'Gone With the Wind.' Handled with scope and sweep . . . to entertain and hold audiences in substantial number."

Featured in FILM DAILY: "Should attract a large audience. Grand scale stuff in fine Technicolor that pulsates with action. Powerful . . . told with sweep and vigor. More than fair comparison with 'Gone With the Wind.'"

MOTION PICTURE HERALD: "Top grade. Solid merchandise, commercially. Excellent. Not since 'Gone With the Wind' has Hollywood dealt with the Civil War theme to such dramatic and pictorial advantage."

SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW: "'Tap Roots' is the essence of screen entertainment. One of the biggest pictures of the year. Done on a grand scale . . . a real spectacle that justly deserves the adjectives 'big.' Audiences will remember it a long time."

BOXOFFICE: "Should result in top takes in all bookings. Sure to please. Plenty of red meat for disciples of both torrid romance and hard-hitting action."

VARIETY: "High romance, color lensing, sex implications and broad action will give it ticket-window attention."

THE EXHIBITOR: "Top notch. Should do well at box-offices throughout the country."

WALTER WANGER Presents

VAN HEFLIN • SUSAN HAYWARD in **TAP ROOTS** color by Technicolor

with BORIS KARLOFF • JULIE LONDON • WARD BOND • RICHARD LONG

And Introducing WHITFIELD CONNOR

Screenplay by ALAN LE MAY • Additional Dialogue by LIONEL WIGGAM • From the Novel by JAMES STREET

Directed by GEORGE MARSHALL • Produced by WALTER WANGER PICTURES, Inc.

A GEORGE MARSHALL PRODUCTION • A UNIVERSAL-INTERNATIONAL RELEASE

WE Reproducers to 28 Studios Abroad

Twenty-eight Western Electric reproducing systems have been delivered to as many studios in 12 foreign countries, reports E. S. Gregg, vice-president of Westrex Corp., WE's foreign equipment affiliate.

The equipment went to the following studios:

England: M-G-M British at Elstree; D. and P. at Denham; at Elston Film, Littleton Park; Gate, at Elstree; British Paramount News, London, and London and British Movietone News, London. France: M-G-M Studio and Studios Cinema, Paris. The Netherlands: Profilti Studio, The Hague, and Polygoon Films, Haarlem. Switzerland: Praesens-Film, Zurich, and Gamma-Film, Lausanne.

Also, Italy: M-G-M Studio and Lux Film, Rome. Morocco: Maghreb Films, Casablanca. Egypt: Misr and Nahas studios, Cairo. India: Vauhini Films, Madras; Central and Rajkamal Kalamandir studios, Bombay. China: Rural Films, Nanking; Young Wha Studios, Hong Kong, and Chinese Film Corp., Shanghai. Argentina: Emelco, Buenos Aires, and Film Andes, Mendoza. Mexico: Cine Sonido, Mexico City. Australia: Commonwealth and Fox Movietone News, Sydney.

Joins Blaine-Thompson

Charles Stark, former president and general manager of Station WMCA, has been appointed director of radio and television for the Blaine-Thompson agency here.

House Group Probe

(Continued from page 1)

hibitors and independents have been complaining about in all of the court actions and in all of the cases that did not get to court. The economic counsel, a former Federal Trade Commission lawyer and economist, met this morning with Allied States general counsel Abram F. Myers and representatives of independent organizations in other industries. He also revealed that he has had "several conferences" with representatives of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers of Hollywood. Both Allied and the SIMPP pledged their support to the committee when its investigation was first announced in May.

The committee is still drawing up its plans. It has sent questionnaires to several thousand film and other independent businessmen, and has tentative schedules for local hearings in about four cities this fall, to be followed by Washington hearings. The committee will take to the road again

early next year, according to the present schedule. Philadelphia, Minneapolis and New Orleans are among cities now being mentioned for the fall hearings.

Myers, it was understood, today suggested that the committee make recommendations on preventing excessive delays in anti-trust actions. A new anti-trust court was suggested by the Allied official, who cited the Paramount case as a "horrible example" of the delays that large firms can throw up against anti-trust suits, whether brought by the Government or private individuals.

In Denver, Allied's board meeting at Denver told the committee it should check into the possibility of banning vertical integration and also making the Robinson-Patman Act ban on discrimination apply to licenses as well as to actual sales.

Myers said he had "no doubt" that officials of Allied units would testify at the local hearings wherever possible. He will continue to cooperate directly with the committee staff here.

Theatre Building in High Gear in Brazil

SAO PAULO, Brazil, July 1 (By Air-mail).—In spite of the difficulties of building and an almost certain commercial depression, theatre building is on the increase here. All over the country new theatres are opening almost daily, and owners of large and small theatres are making every effort to improve their equipment.

A Federal decree now makes it compulsory to obtain import licenses before ordering projection equipment. Of some 10,000 requests for licenses, about 100 have been granted.

Merger Plans to '4A' Units for Approval

Merger plans for the creation of one powerful union in the talent field have been placed before all branches of the Associated Actors and Artistes of America for their consideration. The proposals grew out of an AAAA conference held at the Hotel Roosevelt recently.

It is understood that if the AAAA branches reject the proposals, the merger drive will be abandoned. If the idea is approved, it is expected that additional conferences will be held to consider the matter further.

NLRB Hearing Starts On New U.A. Aspect

National Labor Relations Board field examiner Arthur Younger heard arguments here yesterday in connection with an NLRB investigation of charges made by IATSE Home Office Employees Local No. H-63 that entry of a third disputant in the competition for labor jurisdiction at United Artists' home office was a maneuver by Screen Office and Professional Employees Guild to circumvent the local in its bid for an NLRB election among UA home office "white collarites."

Younger is expected to decide this week whether the third disputant will be permitted to appear on the election ballots.

Palestinian Film to 20th

"Israel Reborn" of Palestine Films will be distributed in the U. S. by 20th Century-Fox, it was announced here by Andy W. Smith, Jr., general sales manager. "Israel Reborn" is a one-reeler containing scenes of the birth of the new State of Israel, produced by Norman Lourie and Joseph Krumgold, heads of Palestine Films.

Theatres in Canada

(Continued from page 1)

cent in the early months of this year. The 20 per cent wartime tax, abolished on May 19, continues in some provinces as a local source of revenue. Its abolition for the most part of the country, however, will bring back grosses to previous levels, it is believed by Canadian film executives.

Picture Story No. 2

of the bombload

of laughs

that made

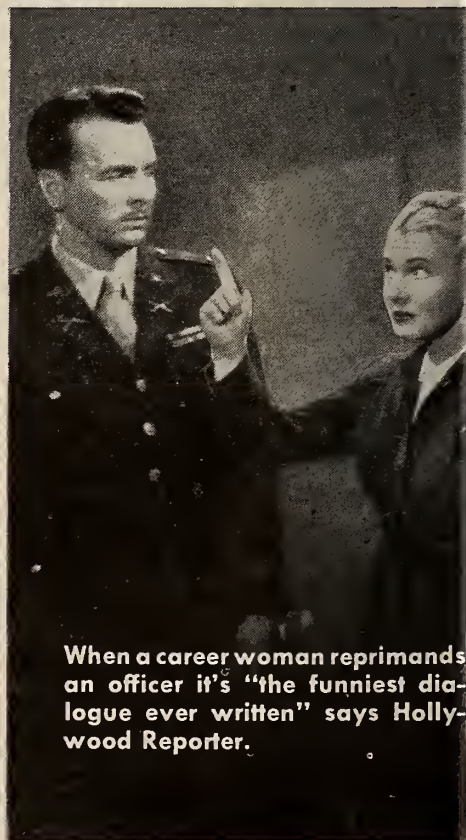
The Exhibitor

rate it

"THE BEST SHOW
IN MANY A MOON"



When John-nee has himself a hot time in the "cold" war, "no one will want to miss it" says Showmen's Trade Review.



When a career woman reprimands an officer it's "the funniest dialogue ever written" says Hollywood Reporter.

"A Foreign Affair"

Top Industry Salaries Listed by U. S. Treasury

WASHINGTON, July 6.—Charles P. Skouras, president of National Theatres Amusement Co. and Fox West Coast Amusement Corp., drew \$985,300 in salary and bonuses in 1946, to lead the first installment of the Treasury Department's list of top U. S. wage earners. His income compared with \$568,143 for the previous year.

Salaries listed are gross and do not give effect to large Federal and state income taxes.

Film producer William Wyler drew \$432,000 from Samuel Goldwyn Productions to rank second on today's list, while Bing Crosby, with \$325,000 from Paramount, ranked eighth. Betty Grable, with \$299,300 from 20th Century-Fox, ranked ninth nationally and was top-salaried woman on the current list.

Other highly-paid film figures on the list were Hedy Lamarr, with \$279,800 from Mars Film Corp.; Cary Grant, with \$278,125 from Goldwyn; Bob Hope, with \$275,000 from Paramount, and Darryl F. Zanuck, with \$260,000 from 20th Century-Fox.

Four Companies Missing

The figures do not cover dividends and other income outside salary, all bonuses and certain extra compensation. The list did not include Metro, Warners, RKO and Universal, which have contributed many top wage earners in past years. Many film figures on the list may also boost their total

take when these and other film firms are listed.

Skouras received \$130,000 from Fox West Coast, and \$855,300 from National. The million-a-year mark has not been cracked since Leo McCarey received \$1,113,035 for 1944.

Here are the company-by-company listings of their over \$75,000 wage-earners:

\$159,000 for Balaban

Paramount: Lewis A. Allen, \$79,500; Barney Balaban, \$159,000; Edmund Beloin, \$85,750; Claude Binyon, \$122,500; Edward V. Bracken, \$96,249; Charles Brackett, \$116,791; Frank R. Butler, \$102,625; Bing Crosby, \$325,000; Roland Culver, \$84,270; Marlene Dietrich, \$100,000; John V. Farrow, \$122,791; Y. Frank Freeman, \$132,500; Tav Garnett, \$150,000; Henry Ginsberg, \$220,000; Paulette Goddard, \$118,589; Leonard H. Goldenson, \$85,000; Bob Hope, \$275,000; Paul M. Jones, \$92,900; Austin C. Keough, \$85,000; Milton Krims, \$84,708; Alan W. Ladd, \$212,000; Dorothy Lamour, \$175,083; Sidney Lanfield, \$117,812; Mitchell Leisen, \$192,737; Kenneth McGowan, \$89,416; Fred MacMurray, \$150,000; George Marshall, \$159,000; Ray Milland, \$229,166; Charles M. Reagan, \$81,482; Sol C. Siegel, \$77,083; Betty Hutton, \$164,500; Sonny Tufts, \$90,666; Harry Tugend, \$153,000; Billy Wilder, \$166,083; Dwight M. Wiley, \$76,416; P. J. Wolfson, \$96,000; Victor Young, \$79,500; Adolph Zukor, \$136,400.

20th Century-Fox: William Bacher, \$91,166; Lloyd Bacon, \$177,958; Anne Baxter, \$86,041; Ronald Colman, \$75,824; Thomas J. Connors, \$110,400; Linda Darnell, \$111,333; Richard W. Day, \$78,000; Philip Dunne, \$83,810; Mack Gordon, \$104,000; Edmund Goulding, \$178,333; Betty Grable, \$299,333; Rex Harrison, \$174,750; Henry Hathaway, \$135,666; June Haver, \$80,708; Dick Haymes, \$95,000; Frederick Herbert, \$134,125; Samuel Hoffenstein, \$92,325; H. Bruce Humberstone, \$99,583; Harry James, \$100,

Increase in Studio Labor Employment

Hollywood, July 6.—The film production employment index rose to 83.3 per cent in May from April's 79.5, according to the California Labor Statistics Bureau, which uses 1940 level as 100. May a year ago hit 101.6. Average weekly earnings for May, 1948, were \$97.94, compared with \$96.69 in April.

036; George Jessel, \$117,666; Henry King, \$165,000; Fred Kohlmar, \$91,000; Walter R. Lang, \$185,000; Louis D. Lighton, \$140,000; Ernst Lubitsch, \$120,000; Joseph Mankiewicz, \$190,333; Gene Markey, \$109,825; Mary C. McCall, Jr., \$106,000; William C. Michel, \$84,800; Thomas Mitchell, \$121,875; George Montgomery, \$84,916; Joseph Moskowitz, \$104,000; Alfred Newman, \$104,333; Lloyd Nolan, \$76,300; Maureen O'Hara, \$199,333; John Payne, \$96,875; William Perlberg, \$182,000; Tyrone Power, \$189,500; Otto L. Preminger, \$206,750; Vincent Price, Jr., \$79,400; Gregory Ratoff, \$182,000; Cesar Romero, \$89,250; Lew Schreiber, \$130,000; George E. Seaton, \$156,000; Spyros P. Skouras, \$201,899; John M. Stahl, \$195,000; Gene Tierney, \$195,000; Lamar Trotti, \$149,520; Clifton Webb, \$97,000; Cornel L. Wilde, \$130,000; Robert G. Young, \$100,000; Darryl F. Zanuck, \$260,000.

Samuel Goldwyn Productions: Dana Andrews, \$182,233; Sylvia Fine, \$133,928; Cary Grant, \$278,125; Howard Hawks, \$250,000; Danny Kaye, \$133,928; Henry Koster, \$125,000; David Niven, \$194,000; Robert E. Sherwood, \$208,000; Harry Tugend, \$100,000; William Wyler, \$432,000; Loretta Young, \$186,666.

\$279,800 for Hedy Lamarr

Mars Film Corp.: Jack Chertok, \$153,200; Louis Hayward, \$86,250; Hedy Lamarr, \$279,800; George Sanders, \$85,333. The Treasury pointed out that a large part of these individuals' income was not paid in 1946, but will come out of profits of

"Dishonored Lady" and "The Strange Woman."

Phil Berg-Bert Allenberg, Inc.: Bert Allenberg, \$112,741; Phil Berg, \$112,661.

Chaplin Studios, Inc.: Charles Chaplin, \$119,000.

Empire Productions, Inc.: Hunt Stromberg, \$150,000. (Paid \$75,000 in 1946 and \$75,000 in 1947 prior to March 15, 1947.)

Enterprise Productions, Inc.: S. Charles Einfeld, \$78,000.

Famous Artists Corp.: Charles K. Feldman, \$126,941.

Fox Inter-Mountain Amusement Corp.: F. H. Ricketson, Jr., \$119,296.

Fox Mid-West Amusement Corp.: Elmer C. Rhoden, \$119,445.

Lexington Productions, Inc.: Barbara Stanwyck, \$100,000.

Mark Productions, Inc.: Jules Dassin, \$85,000; Barry Fitzgerald, \$83,333; Mark Hellinger, \$156,000.

Oakmont Pictures, Inc.: Charles Coburn, \$100,000; George Sanders, \$100,000.

Hal Roach Studios: William Bendix, \$163,811.

Andy Russell, Inc.: Andy Russell, \$121,437.

United States Pictures, Inc.: Gary Cooper, \$199,999; Fritz Lang, \$178,124.

Vanguard Films, Inc.: Neil F. Agnew, \$131,658; Joseph Cotten, \$121,103; William Dieterle, \$204,375; Mervyn LeRoy, \$118,333; Ginger Rogers, \$84,478; Allan Scott, \$145,291; Shirley Temple, \$135,541.

B. and K. Management Corp.: John Balaban, \$111,890.

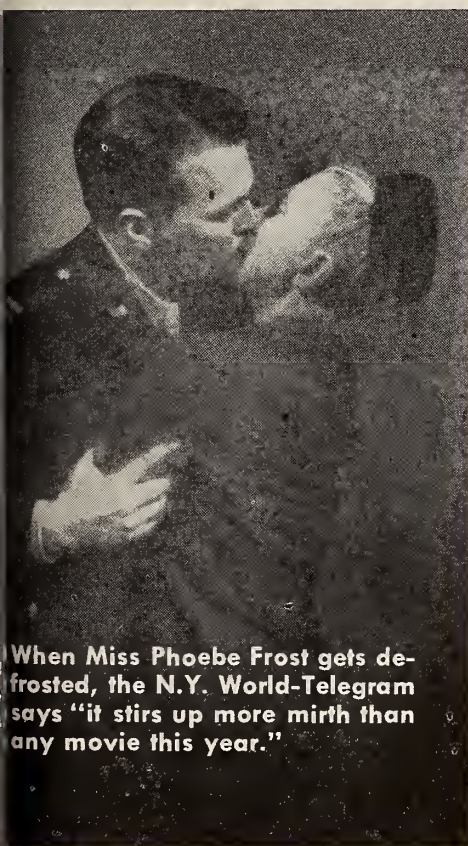
Schine Chain Theatres, Inc.: J. M. Schine, \$102,200.

20th Century-Fox International Corp.: Murray Silverstone, \$91,283.

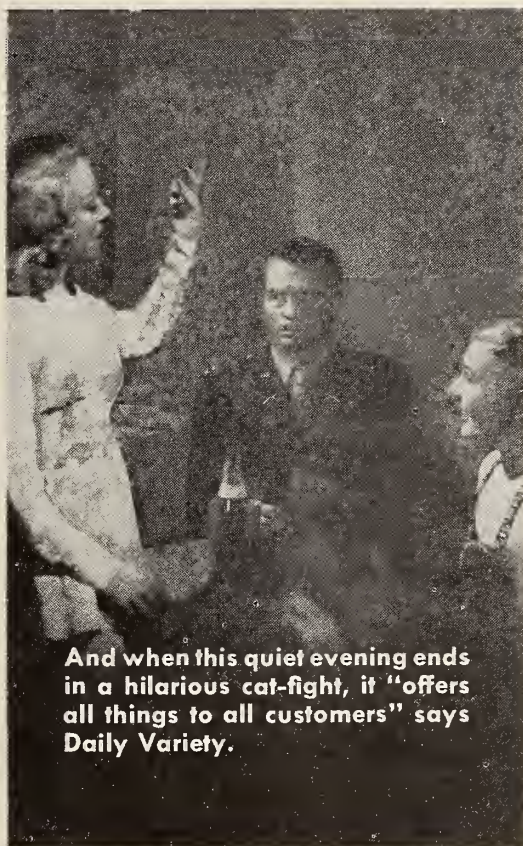
United Artists Corp.: Gradwell L. Sears, \$130,000.

Three More Theatres Under Way in Cal.

SAN FRANCISCO, July 6.—Plans for two new theatres, a drive-in on a site recently acquired by Joseph Blumenfeld and Louis Kaliski and the other to be built by T. and D. circuit in Susanville, have been announced here. Meanwhile, construction is under way at Willow Glen on a 1,200-seat house to be operated by J. B. Lima, Walter Preddy and Ben Levin.



When Miss Phoebe Frost gets defrosted, the N.Y. World-Telegram says "it stirs up more mirth than any movie this year."



And when this quiet evening ends in a hilarious cat-fight, it "offers all things to all customers" says Daily Variety.

JEAN
ARTHUR
MARLENE
DIETRICH
JOHN
LUND
in
"A Foreign Affair"
with
MILLARD MITCHELL
Produced by **CHARLES BRACKETT**
Directed by **BILLY WILDER**
Screenplay by Charles Brackett, Billy Wilder, and
Richard L. Breen • Adaptation by Robert Harari
A Paramount Picture

is a funny affair !!!

New York Grosses

(Continued from page 1)

"Fort Apache" and Lena Horne on stage, for a second week at the Capitol. At Loew's State, "Easter Parade" is having a rousing first week with a handsome \$92,000 expected. "Romance on the High Seas" together with Bob Crosby's band on stage, is satisfactory at the Strand where a second week looks like \$42,000.

Two houses which have been in a slump lately are enjoying livelier business again this week, although their current grosses are far from sensational. They are the Winter Garden, where "Man-Eater of Kumaon" is expected to draw \$32,000 for a first week, and the Rivoli, where the first week of the re-issued "The Crusades" looks like \$30,000.

Elsewhere business is shaping up about as follows: "Fighting Father Dunne," Victoria, second and final week, \$12,500 (very mild); "Melody Time," Astor, sixth week, \$19,000 (fair); "The Lady from Shanghai," Criterion, fourth and final week, \$12,500 (very disappointing); "Arch of Triumph," Globe, 11th week, \$10,000 (moderate); "Time of Your Life," Mayfair, sixth week, \$17,500 (mild); "Hatter's Castle," Ambassador, first and final week, \$5,500 (poor).

"Canon City" bows in at the Criterion today, and "Raw Deal" will take over at the Victoria tomorrow.

'Frisco DST Ending

SAN FRANCISCO, July 6.—Daylight saving time which went into effect in California January 1 will probably be terminated on September 25, according to a statement issued by Governor Warren. Daylight saving, which has always been vigorously opposed by the film industry, was put into effect by the Governor's proclamation due to a power shortage.

Strike Hits Worcester

BOSTON, July 6.—Theatre business in Worcester suffered heavy losses over the holiday weekend due to a strike of 800 operating employees of the Worcester Street Railway. Shutdown of theatres is expected if the strike continues. Merchants have already closed their doors.

Reels Aid TOA Drive

All five newsreels in their midweek editions out today will carry coverage of activities at two Kansas City children's camps, this in support of the Theatre Owners of America's Youth Month campaign, of which Charles P. Skouras is chairman.

OF COURSE



"TEXAS, BROOKLYN and HEAVEN"

sent from UA

Review

"Key Largo"

(Warner Brothers)

DRAWING on the play of the same name by Maxwell Anderson, Warner kicks in with a corking drama of men and women under emotional and physical stress and how each emerges, or succumbs, according to his or her fortitude.

In a number of respects, this attraction more sharply resembles a stage play than a motion picture. Most of the drama is enacted inside the hotel operated by Lionel Barrymore at Key Largo, hurricane-swept pinpoint on the keys off the Florida coast. There, Humphrey Bogart, unencumbered by any objective and not caring about one, drops in to meet the father, Barrymore, and the widow, Lauren Bacall, of a war-time buddy who lost his life in Italy.

In possession is Edward G. Robinson, overlord of the Chicago underworld en route to Cuba in a race to outwit the Government. His attaches—a fine lot—include Thomas Gomez, Harry Lewis and Dan Seymour; and Claire Trevor, his girl friend about to pass out of favor. Outside is a speed cruiser to provide the getaway after one more deal in counterfeit money is closed.

Robinson and his crew are in command, and the others openly are his prisoners. The cocky underworld leader makes advances to Miss Bacall. He shoots an already wounded deputy police officer dead. Two inoffensive Seminoles are killed by another police officer acting on false information callously furnished by him. Initially, Bogart is unaroused, indifferent and unwilling to become a hero at the risk of his own skin. As the tenseness mounts, however, so does the rising fury of a hurricane. Changes occur.

Robinson no longer is the bragging and domineering kingpin. All this veneer is torn to shreds by the forces of nature. As he disintegrates, Bogart contrariwise gains strength and conviction until his inherent belief in decency takes over and determines him to work for the elimination of Robinson and his gang.

This comes about when the racketeers take off for Cuba with Bogart as their hostage-pilot. He kills two of the henchmen, forces another overboard, and finally pumps Robinson full of lead as mercilessly as Robinson would have shot Bogart and returns the boat to its home port where a romance with Miss Bacall is suggested.

These story essentials certainly are not new after the hundreds of gangster films on Hollywood's record. But "Key Largo" obviously relies far more on character study and delineation than on straight melodramatic action of which it has comparatively little. Thus, there was offered a clear opportunity for good performers to show the stuff of which they are made. In the main, the principals come through.

Bogart here delivers another of his competent, low-pitched performances. So, too, does Miss Bacall. Robinson is as tough and as craven as ever he was in the days when he was Warner's arch criminal. Lionel Barrymore is up to his standard as the chair-ridden hotel owner. The secondary roles are well done.

But reserved for Miss Trevor is a commendation which becomes hers alone. Between love for Robinson and her fear which she seeks to forget in liquor, she gives a performance of superb shadings and sympathy. It can be argued with little fear of substantial contradiction that hers is the best piece of acting in the entire cast.

Jerry Wald produced this interesting film with John Huston ("The Treasure of the Sierra Madre") directing, from an intelligent script of his own in association with Richard Brooks. Their combination effort deserves praise and a bit of censure. The censure is for allowing "Key Largo" to consume more running time than is best for it. Well-done and exciting as the film now stands, this attraction could have been even more taut if more concise.

Running time, 101 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, July 31.

RED KANN

'C' Rating to 'Nais'; Six Others Listed

"Nais" (French) distributed here by Sirtzky International, has been placed in Class C by the National Legion of Decency in its classification of seven new films this week. Rated as A-I are: "Blazing Across the Pecos," Columbia; "Deep Waters," 20th Century-Fox; "Timber Trail," Republic, and "Northwest Stampede," Eagle-Lion. In A-II are "Abbott and Costello Meet Frankenstein," Universal-International, and "Romance on the High Seas," Warners.

Fete Stevenson, Bolton

SAN FRANCISCO, July 6.—Rex O. Stevenson, former San Francisco division manager for the Golden State Theatre Circuit, was guest last week at a midnight supper given by 25 theatre managers and other executives of the circuit. Also a guest was David J. Bolton, who, with Stevenson, has formed the new Trans-California Theatre Co. to build and operate theatres in this area.

Conciliation Plan

(Continued from page 1)

when" the first conciliation and mediation cases will be brought up. First meeting of the NCA grievance committee has been set for July 12, with regular meetings slated to be held the first Monday of each month thereafter.

A bulletin will be mailed this week to NCA members and other exhibitors in the territory instructing them on procedure in filing complaints against 20th-Fox, and it is expected the bulletin also will seek information on trade complaints against other companies.

5th-Walnut Bid

(Continued from page 1)

has submitted to the court a motion for verdict reversal and will argue before Federal Judge Vincent L. Leibel on Friday for a ruling in favor of the plaintiff.

Should his motion be unsuccessful, Stein said yesterday, the plaintiff will move for a new trial. Third recourse would be an appeal of the jury verdict.

Allvine Named Aide

(Continued from page 1)

in the film industry, having joined Paramount as a publicist in 1920. He was director of advertising and publicity for Fox from 1927 to 1932, and for three years, beginning in 1933 produced for RKO. In 1936 he went to Paramount as chairman of the editorial board at the Coast studio. Before joining the Motion Picture Association he wrote a play, "Knights of Song," and was publicist for the Center Theatre, New York.

The team also includes John Foster Dulles as advisor on foreign affairs; James C. Hagerty, who will handle newspapers and magazines; Rep. Leonard Hall, who will blend the campaign with Congressional contests; James Burton, in charge of a research staff, and Ford Bond, who will supervise the radio campaign.

Pa. Allied

(Continued from page 1)

legitimate grievances which cannot be righted except by substantial concessions from distributors and the affiliated theatres," it was said. "Wherever and whenever a member of this association with legitimate grievance desires the support of this organization in litigation or in negotiation with other elements of this industry he will get such support to the fullest extent.

"There is no evidence now present in the film rentals being demanded by the distributors, or in their efforts to circumvent the decision of the United States Supreme Court, to create the preliminary confidence absolutely necessary for the success of any conciliation plan," declared Pennsylvania Allied's statement.



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64. NO. 5

NEW YORK, U.S.A., THURSDAY, JULY 8, 1948

TEN CENTS

UK Exhibitors Threaten To Boycott Rank

If He Persists on High Rentals, CEA Will Act

LONDON, July 7.—If J. Arthur Rank persists in his plans to secure increased rentals from British exhibitors, a boycott of Rank product will be instituted by them, it was indicated here today by a ranking Cinematograph Exhibitors Association spokesman.

CEA's board of directors, it was said, is prepared to signal for the boycott by issuing a circular counselling the organization's members to refuse to book any Rank film and to take legal protection in this connection in the escape clauses of the British quota act.

Although Rank has not yet officially announced the new terms he is seeking.

(Continued on page 4)

20th's '21-Day' Plan Scores in Cleveland

CLEVELAND, July 7.—Adoption of the 21-day test clearance plan by 20th Century-Fox in this area has resulted in consistent increases in weekly revenue for the exchange here, according to 20th Century-Fox spokesmen who claim that the policy has been well received.

According to sales records, it is said, Cleveland leads all other branches of the company in sales on 18 of the past 20 feature releases. Under the new selling, 20th-Fox offers a 21-day availability to selected deluxe suburban first-runs which previously were held to a 35-day clearance.

'Amber' in General Release September 15

"Forever Amber" will go into general release on September 15, according to 20th Century-Fox, which states the film played 4,992 engagements at advanced prices in the last quarter of 1947 to a theatre gross of \$8,000,000.

"The Snake Pit," starring Olivia De Havilland, will not be released until next year. Probably it will have its premiere in New York this fall with a campaign along the lines of "Gentleman's Agreement." The company also declares that currently it is releasing "more feature product than ever in our history."

Rank Allows 'Certain' UK Houses Rate Quota Relief

LONDON, July 7.—J. Arthur Rank, today reelected president of the British Film Producers Association for the seventh consecutive year, acknowledged in his inaugural address that certain British exhibitors are "quite properly entitled to claim relief under Section 4 of the new cinematograph (quota) act."

But in addressing the BFPA, Rank eluded any reference to the general exhibitor indignation against the act. However, his statement was his first acknowledgment that any exhibitor has a possible grievance. It also was an about-face in connection with his previous publicly-declared intention to ensure that all play 45 per cent British product with no excuses.

"We are primarily a show business,"

(Continued on page 4)

See Industry Council Organizing Swiftly

HOLLYWOOD, July 7.—Final steps in the establishment of a motion picture industry council to guide public relations are expected to follow swiftly upon the arrival here tomorrow of Edward Cheyfitz, Motion Picture Association of America executive. He is slated to remain here several weeks.

Next formal meeting of the committee, which is headed by Dore Schary, is set for July 13 at which time representatives of studios, guilds and unions who attended a similar meeting last month are to report on the attitude of their respective units. Although denied by Cheyfitz on his previous visit here, the report persists that he will be appointed head of the council.

Mason Wins Verdict In Rose Pact Suit

British actor James Mason has won his suit against producer David Rose over contractual entanglements, and the latter's counter-claim for more than \$1,000,000 damages has been dismissed in U. S. District Court here. Federal Judge John C. Knox ruled yesterday that the document signed by the two in June, 1946, was not a valid contract, and held that Rose therefore cannot prevent Mason from working for other employers in the U. S.

The 28-page decision held that the agreement between Mason and Rose was too incomplete to constitute a binding contract.

Mason was represented by Louis D. Frohlich of the New York law firm of Schwartz and Frohlich. Richard Persinger, Rose's attorney, is expected to appeal the decision.

Morton Heads U.A. Sales in England

Montague C. Morton has been named general sales manager for United Artists in Great Britain, succeeding the late Sidney (Bobby) Dubow. Morton was assistant sales manager and was promoted by David Coplan, U.A.'s managing director.

Another promotion in the company's foreign organization is the transfer of Antonio Dos Santos Silva to head U.A.'s office in Porto Alegre, Brazil. He was formerly manager in Sao Salvador, a post to which Manoel Soares Dos Santos, former cashier in the office, has been named.

Exports to Spain Will Be Cut 60%

United States distributors, most of whom have branches or agents in Spain, "are looking forward to the bleakest season in that country since the Spanish Civil War," with the absolute maximum of Hollywood imports being estimated at 80 for next season, against 200 this year, it is disclosed in press dispatches reaching here from Barcelona. This would be a cut of 60 per cent.

Principal reason given for the forthcoming slump is that the price for import permits has almost doubled. Formerly the price was 250,000 pesetas (about \$25,000), while now an import permit costs from 400,000 to 500,000 pesetas.

Distributors are said to be not so disturbed over the direct result of the impending shortage of American films as over the long-range result that other countries, especially Britain, France and Italy, will take over American picture supremacy. The best pictures of the latter three countries can be had for an import price of 150,000 pesetas and less, it was said.

RKO Board Gathers For Weekend Meet

HOLLYWOOD, July 7.—RKO Radio board members were guests of RKO president N. Peter Rathvon at a luncheon at the studio today after which they held preliminary conferences to map out areas for discussion when the board convenes officially on Saturday and possibly sooner, in a meeting which is expected to last several days. Neither Howard Hughes,

(Continued on page 6)

'Big 5' to Ask More Time in Divorce Quiz

Expected to Seek Delay Until Early in the Fall

On the grounds of insufficient time in which to provide the extensive and detailed information sought by the Government, the "Big Five" are understood to be planning to petition the Department of Justice to push back the deadline for submitting answers to interrogatories on joint theatre ownerships which were served on them on July 1 under the divestiture provisions of the U. S. Supreme Court's decision in the Paramount anti-trust case.

Although a decision on what action will be taken by the theatre-holding defendants is not anticipated before tomorrow, expectations are that counsel for the companies will ask that they be given until early fall,

(Continued on page 5)

N.Y. Owners Meet at Lake Placid July 24

Meeting of New York State theatremen designed to effect a closer working basis on public relations and on other matters has been set for July 24-25 at the summer home of Fred J. Schwartz, president of the Metropolitan Motion Picture Theatres Association, at Lake Placid, N. Y.

Schwartz indicated yesterday that the session, to be informal, will be devoted to a "mutual exchange of ideas

(Continued on page 6)

Competition Forces New Cuts in Loop

CHICAGO, July 7.—In the face of heavy competition by the Balaban and Katz Chicago Theatre, which reverted to stage shows and reduced its admission prices two weeks ago, along with other Loop houses, the Essaness Oriental will reduce matinee admissions starting tomorrow to the equivalent admission scale of other Loop houses, it was learned here today. New scale at the Oriental, where grosses have fallen off considerably in the past two weeks, will be 50 cents to one P.M., 65 cents to five, and 98 cents thereafter.

The Woods Theatre, operated by Essaness in the Loop, however, will retain its all-day top price of 98 cents.

Paramount Sets 7 4th Quarter Releases

Paramount will release seven features during the final quarter of 1948, according to Charles M. Reagan, distribution vice-president, who lists the following:

"Sorry, Wrong Number," September 24, Hal Wallis, producer; "Isn't It Romantic?," October 8, Daniel Dare, producer; "Night Has a Thousand Eyes," October 22, John Farrow, director; "Sealed Verdict," November 8, Robert Fellows, producer; "The Tatlock Millions," November 19, Charles Brackett, producer; "Disaster," December 3, Pine-Thomas; "The Paleface," December 24, Norman McLeod, director.

Lamm, Holland Have Promotional Plan

CLEVELAND, July 7.—Julius Lamm, for the past 17 years manager of Warner's Uptown Theatre, and Sid Holland, manager of the Clinton at Port Clinton, have both severed their affiliations and left for Los Angeles to open a West Coast branch of Theatrical Enterprises, distributor of theatre promotions.

William S. Shartin and Jack Gertz, heads of Theatrical Enterprises, state this is the first move in an expansion program to open offices in all key exchange centers. They now have offices in Cleveland, Pittsburgh and Cincinnati.

Bonded To Handle National Clients

Bonded Film Storage, New York, has been appointed distribution representative of National Film Service for the New York exchange territory, it was announced by William J. Clark, vice-president of National. Bonded maintains four film warehouses in New York which are serviced by its own trucks.

National handles physical distribution for Selznick Releasing Organization, Eagle-Lion, Film Classics, Republic, Monogram and numerous independent distributors, the company stated.

Levee - Stark Merges With Century Artists

Levee-Stark Agency and Century Artists have completed a merger which combines the New York office of Century Artists and their Hollywood offices with the Hollywood offices of Levee-Stark. Plans are being formulated for construction of a building in Beverly Hills, but both offices will retain their present locations until the structure is completed.

Small Signs to Make Rank's 'Lorna Doone'

HOLLYWOOD, July 7.—Finalization of a deal with J. Arthur Rank whereby Edward Small will produce "Lorna Doone" in England in Technicolor has been announced here. Small and production aides will leave for London at the weekend to prepare for filming, which will start in August. American distribution has not yet been arranged.

Personal Mention

J. ROBERT RUBIN, M-G-M general counsel and vice-president, left here last night for the Coast.

JOSEPH ANGRISANI, assistant to 20th Century-Fox advertising production manager **ABE GOODMAN**, and **MARIE OSTRANDER**, secretary to 20th-Fox sales executive **WILLIAM C. GEHRING**, will be married on Saturday.

HARRY M. KALMINE, Warner Theatre president, and **RUDOLPH WEISS**, head of the company's real estate department, will leave here today for Washington.

MOE KERMAN, Favorite Films president, will leave here tomorrow for Los Angeles, with a stopover in Chicago.

JULES LAPIDUS, Warner Eastern and Canadian division sales manager, left New York yesterday for Pittsburgh.

NICK MAMULA, Selznick Releasing Organization press contact, has returned to New York from a two-week vacation in Montauk.

LOUIS K. SIDNEY, M-G-M production executive, has returned to the Coast from a vacation.

WILLIAM F. RODGERS, M-G-M distribution vice-president, will be in Buffalo today from New York.

WILLIAM R. FERGUSON, M-G-M exploitation head, will fly to Chicago today from New York.

BILL KUPPER, JR., former sales representative for Terrytoons, is now active in exhibition in California.

ALEX HARRISON, assistant to **HERMAN WOBBER**, 20th Century-Fox Pacific Coast district manager, is acting branch manager at San Francisco in the absence of **JOSEPH M. PODOLOFF**, who is ill.

LOUIS F. LIFTON, Allied Artists-Monogram advertising-publicity director, who is here from Hollywood, will remain in New York for about four weeks.

HOWARD MINSKY, assistant to 20th Century-Fox Eastern division manager, and **DAN HOULIHAN**, Albany branch manager, were in Gloversville this week.

ALFRED CROWN, head of foreign sales for Samuel Goldwyn Productions, has returned to New York from England and the Continent.

BEN KALMENSEN, Warner distribution vice-president, and **ROY HAINES**, Western division sales manager, will leave here today for Chicago.

CLARENCE HILL, 20th Century-Fox home office executive, is visiting Southern exchanges from New York.

IRVING SHIFFRIN, Hollywood agency representative, is in New York from the Coast.

BUDD ROGERS, Realart vice-president, is in Detroit and Minneapolis from New York.

Theatres To Offset Radio Giveaways

KANSAS CITY, July 7.—Beverly Miller, recently district manager of Eagle-Lion and formerly franchise holder of PRC, is now setting up a giveaway operation for simultaneous participation of several hundred theatres, designed principally to combat the big radio giveaways which are believed to be cutting in on theatre attendance.

'Land of Liberty' To Archives Files

WASHINGTON, July 7.—Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association of America, today presented to the National Archives here an original print of "Land of Liberty," excerpts for which were taken from more than 100 productions and woven together by Cecil B. DeMille into a 14-reel motion picture history of the U. S.

Republic Switches Carmichael to 'Frisco

SAN FRANCISCO, July 7.—R. W. Carmichael, former manager of the Los Angeles branch of Republic Pictures, moves in as branch manager of the local exchange. S. C. Martenstein is the new sales manager.

Name Publicity Men For Hospital Drive

Si Seadler, M-G-M, and Gilbert Golden, Warner Brothers, yesterday were named co-chairmen of a publicity committee to aid the Metropolitan New York drive for the Will Rogers Memorial Hospital at Saranac Lake, N. Y. Associated with them under the general chairmanship of Nat Cohn of Columbia, are Burt Champion, Paramount; Ray Murray, Columbia; Meyer Hutner, 20th Century-Fox; Sid Garfield, Warner; Charles Simonelli, Universal; Lou Barasch, United Artists, and Mel Konecuff, The Exhibitor.

To Meet on Sanitarium

ALBANY, N. Y., July 7.—Industry leaders of this area will attend a luncheon at the Statler Hotel in Buffalo tomorrow to discuss plans for financing the Will Rogers Memorial Sanitarium at Saranac Lake. They hope to raise \$10,000 to \$15,000 in the Albany district.

NBC, 'Life' Team Up

NBC Television and Life Magazine will collaborate in covering the Democratic national convention in Philadelphia next week, similarly as both joined in reporting the Republican session last month.

Associates, Friends Tribute Jameyson

KANSAS CITY, July 7.—Howard E. Jameyson was guest of honor yesterday at a tribute party to him upon his retirement from a district manager-ship of Fox Midwest Circuit, with many industry associates and friends on hand to participate in the affair. Jameyson's career in public relations, advertising and promotion was reviewed by speakers who included his first employer in Kansas City to give him contacts in the film business 1914 as well as Fox Midwest associates who were trained by him.

Jameyson, who will retain a close tie with the industry through his interest in Commonwealth Theatres of which he is a director, explained that his retirement from Fox Midwest will enable him to undertake several projects while he still has "time, energy and purpose" and while he is still under sixty. Elmer C. Rhoden, Fox Midwest head and toastmaster at the dinner, made the presentation of a typewriter in a special case to Jameyson.

Conrad to London

Harold Conrad, former New York newspaperman, will leave here for England today by air to handle the promotion of J. Arthur Rank's Technicolor feature, "The 1948 Olympic Games," which Eagle-Lion will distribute in the U. S. and Latin America, it has been announced by Max E. Youngstein, E-L advertising-publicity vice-president.

Saland in 16mm. Field

Nat Saland, head of Saland Laboratories, has entered the 16mm. film developing and printing business. Also, he has closed with Phil Krasne to make prints for the 24 "Cisco Kid" 35mm. series, releasing through United Artists, and will do the prints for 10 Harry Popkin features, and for "Urubu," World Adventures' first, another U.A. release.

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"THE STREET WITH NO NAME" IS "SMASH BOXOFFICE STREET!" —Hollywood Reporter ...IN EVERY OPENING!

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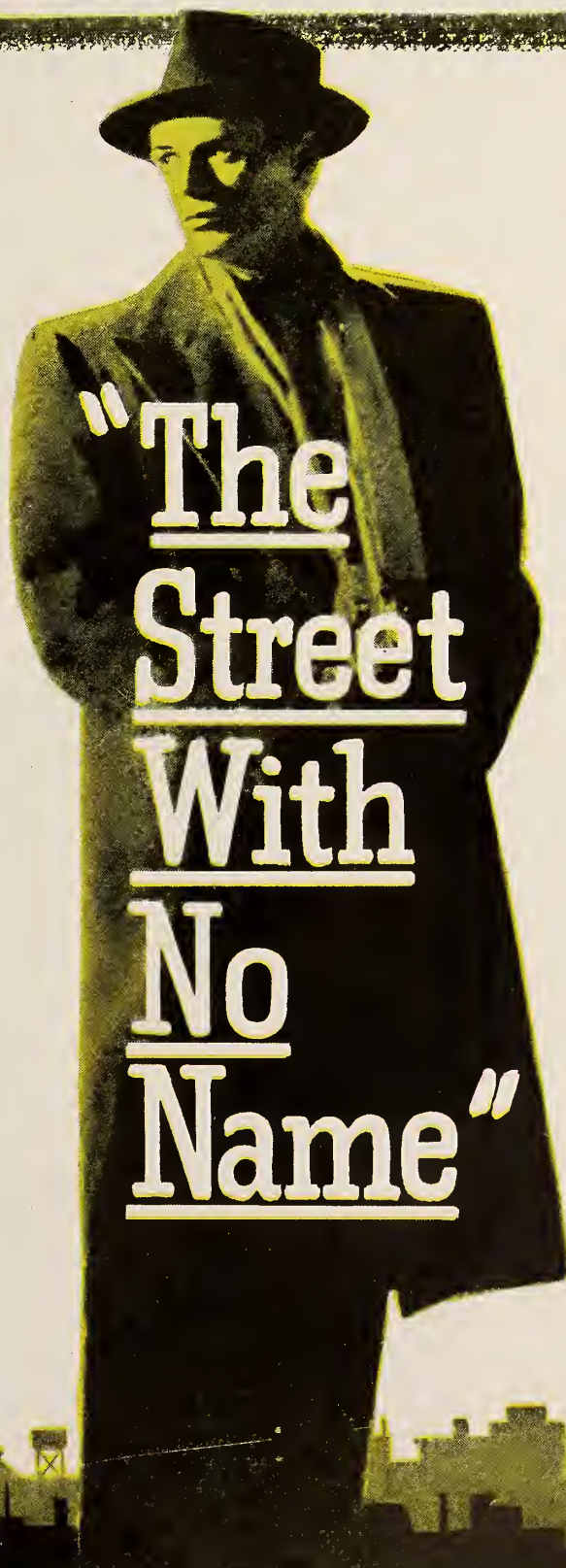
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Lines on streets gave "Street" big, big opening at big, big Fox Theatre!

20th
CENTURY-FOX

"THE STREET WITH NO NAME" Starring MARK STEVENS • RICHARD WIDMARK with LLOYD NOLAN
BARBARA LAWRENCE • Ed Begley • Donald Buka • Joseph Pevney • John McIntire • Walter Greaza • Howard Smith
Directed by WILLIAM KEIGHLEY • Produced by SAMUEL G. ENGEL • Original Screen Play by Harry Kleiner

Threaten Boycott

(Continued from page 1)

ing, it is generally accepted that the new scale would range from 35 per cent to 55 per cent with the size of gross the influencing factor. It would apply to all Rank pictures, regardless of individual quality.

Cite Practice of US Firms

The CEA has lashed out strongly against Rank's plan to have the new terms blanket all of his product. The organization points out that American distributors, with years of experience behind them, condition terms on the value of individual films.

What Rank would do, the CEA attitude maintains, is treat "all of his geese as swans." Many British exhibitors, meanwhile, hold that a high proportion of Rank's current output are merely "lame ducks." CEA says it has exhibitor statistics to prove that recent showings of Rank films resulted in considerable losses to theatres under the new terms and claims continued showings under these terms would prove catastrophic to the majority of British exhibitors.

'Financial Reputation' Involved

It is clearly imperative for Rank, for the sake of his financial reputation, to go to all lengths to obtain this year a satisfactory return on his past and present production ventures, according to observers. CEA strategists believe, therefore, that he is prepared to concede more favorable terms to independent exhibitors rather than to risk a situation in which uncomfortable facts, comparable to his forced disclosure last year about a 2,000,000 pounds (\$8,000,000) deficit in production, might be brought to light.

Review

"The Walls of Jericho"

(20th Century-Fox)

IN "The Walls of Jericho" 20th-Fox brings to the screen another best-selling novel. Set in the town of Jericho, Kansas, at the turn of the century, it is a tale that depicts human relationships in the tanglements of romance, jealousy and frustration. It can best be characterized as a "woman's picture," for it gives the heartstrings a frequent tug and engages in a good deal of well-mannered drawing room palaver. There are many points of solid exploitation for the exhibitor, not the least of which is the cast that producer Lamar Trotti has assembled, including Cornel Wilde, Linda Darnell, Anne Baxter, Kirk Douglas, Ann Dvorak, Marjorie Rambeau and Henry Hull. The action flows at a smooth pace, if slowly, and manages to be engrossing despite characters that are standard Hollywood types.

As a local office holder, Wilde seems headed for a top rung of the political ladder until Miss Darnell arrives in town. As the new wife of Jericho's publisher, Miss Darnell has some political ambitions for her husband, at the expense of Wilde. She elbows Wilde out of the Congressional race in order to get her husband elected. Finally, when the two men decide to oppose each other for the Senate, Miss Darnell smears Wilde with a marital scandal when she learns that he has fallen in love with Miss Baxter. A series of half-melodramatic events follow, highlighted by a crucial court trial, before poetic justice triumphs.

Performances are generally adequate, with Douglas playing the publisher and Miss Dvorak portraying Wilde's alcoholic wife. John M. Stahl directed. Trotti's screenplay was based on Paul Wellman's novel of the same name.

Running time, 106 minutes. Adult audience classification. For August release. MANDEL HERBSTMAN

Hence the mass meeting of independent exhibitors scheduled for July 13, the day before Rank will meet with the CEA for formal discussion of the controversial issue.

Nearly 3,000 UK Theatres Apply for Quota Relief

LONDON, July 7.—An index to British exhibitors' concern over what they regard as the impracticability of the new 45 per cent film quota reveals it-

self in that applications for relief have been lodged with the Board of Trade in behalf of nearly 3,000 theatres. The quota act provides that the BOT, on the advice of the Films Council, may give relief as it thinks fit to any exhibitor in competition with first-run theatres.

It is also laid down that any default in quota obligations due "to circumstances beyond the control of the exhibitor" shall be not regarded as an offense against the law.

Warners Slates 16 For UK in '48-'49

LONDON, July 7.—Warner Brothers will release 16 pictures in Britain during the coming year, Jack L. Warner, WB production head, has announced here. Warner, who has been visiting from the U. S., said the 16 will be chosen from the last two years' inventory.

Observers here regard the Warner move as "shrewd trading" since Associated British Cinemas, which releases WB product under contract, cannot absorb all 16.

Canadian Ticket Tax Income Dwindles

OTTAWA, July 7.—Effects of the Canadian government's leveling of the amusement tax are reflected in a report which shows that the treasury received only \$120,221 in amusement taxes in June, 1948, compared with \$1,227,548 in June, 1947, and \$1,196,811.72 in May, 1948.

Rank on Quota

(Continued from page 1)

Rank told the gathering, "and our financial success or failure depends largely on our ability to gauge public taste and satisfy it. Allowance must be made for creative imaginative aspects of film-making. Due attention must be given to those intangible qualities which are not measurable by the yardstick commonly applied in the manufacturing industry."

Picture Story No. 3
introducing
the 4-Star cast
that Daily Variety
says adds
up to
"BIG MONEY
ENTERTAINMENT"



JEAN ARTHUR is the unawakened gal who winds up singing "loway" and getting blanket-tossed to the rafters . . .



MARLENE DIETRICH sings sultry, sizzling heart hits like "Illusions" and "Black Market" . . .

"A Foreign AFFAIR"

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY correspondents. Estimates omit admission tax.

PHILADELPHIA

Philadelphians as usual headed for seashore resorts during the holiday weekend. However, those who stayed at home showed a strong preference for "The Street with No Name" and "The Paradine Case." Estimated receipts for the week ending July 6-8:

CORONER CREEK (Col.)—STANTON (1,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: \$12,500. (Average: \$11,900)

EMPEROR WALTZ (Para.)—STANLEY (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 3rd week. Gross: \$21,000. (Average: \$20,500)

GIVE MY REGARDS TO BROADWAY (20th-Fox)—KEITH'S (2,200) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd run. Gross: \$4,300. (Average: \$6,100)

HOME COMING (M-G-M)—ARCADIA (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd run. Gross: \$4,200. (Average: \$6,000)

THE NOOSE HANGS HIGH (E-L)—ALDINE (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: \$8,000. (Average: \$13,200)

ON AN ISLAND WITH YOU (M-G-M)—GOLDMANN (1,400) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 3rd week. Gross: \$19,000. (Average: \$22,400)

THE PARADINE CASE (SRO)—BOYD (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: \$28,500. (Average: \$23,100)

THE PIRATE (M-G-M)—EARLE (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: \$22,500. (Average: \$24,300)

ROMANCE ON THE HIGH SEAS (WB)—MASTBAUM (4,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: \$16,300. (Average: \$27,800)

SUMMER HOLIDAY (M-G-M)—KARLTON (1,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: \$5,500. (Average: \$12,000)

THE STREET WITH NO NAME (20th-Fox)—FOX (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: \$30,000. (Average: \$20,400)

BUFFALO

"Emperor Waltz," "Best Years of Our Lives" were good despite near-record heat all week and heavy competition of a 12,000 daily draw at two local horseshoe tracks. Estimated receipts for the week ending July 10:

ANOTHER PART OF THE FOREST (U-I) and **DEAR MURDERER (U-I)**—LAFAYETTE (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c). Gross: \$12,200. (Average: \$13,000)

BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—TWENTIETH CENTURY (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c). Gross: \$14,400. (Average: \$13,000)

EMPEROR WALTZ (Para.)—GREAT LAKES (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c). Gross: \$17,000. (Average: \$17,000)

I WAKE UP SCREAMING (20th-Fox) and **BLOOD AND SAND (20th-Fox)**—HIPPODROME (2,100) (40c-50c-60c-70c). Reissues. Gross: \$7,000. (Average: \$10,000)

ON AN ISLAND WITH YOU (M-G-M) and **SECRET SERVICE INVESTIGATOR (Rep.)**—BUFFALO (3,489) (40c-50c-60c-70c). Gross: \$13,000. (Average: \$17,000)

ON OUR MERRY WAY (UA) and **MONEY MADNESS (FC)**—TECK (1,500) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 2nd week, on a moveover. Gross: \$3,000. (Average: \$4,000)

BOSTON

Warm weather over the holiday weekend kept most grosses below average. Estimated receipts for the week ended July 7:

CORONER CREEK (Col.) and **KINGS OF THE OLYMPICS (U-A)**—ASTOR (1,300) (44c-80c). Gross: \$5,800. 6 days. (Average: None available)

EMPEROR WALTZ (Para.) and **BIG TOWN SCANDAL (Para.)**—METROPOLITAN (4,367) (40c-80c). Gross: \$25,000. (Average: \$27,000). With a personal appearance of Dr. I. Q. one night.

GIVE MY REGARDS TO BROADWAY (20th-Fox) and **COBRA STRIKES (E-L)**—RKO MEMORIAL (3,000) (40c-80c). Gross: \$10,000. (Average: \$22,000) 4 days.

JASSY (U-I) and **SPY IN BLACK (Formerly U-BOAT 29) (Col.)**—EXETER (1,300) (45c-75c). Gross: \$1,800. 3 days.

OCTOBER MAN (E-L) and **VACATION FROM MARRIAGE (M-G-M)**. Gross: \$2,200. (Average: \$5,000) 4 days.

ON AN ISLAND WITH YOU (M-G-M) and **BEST MAN WINS (Col.)**—STATE (3,500) (40c-80c). Gross: \$12,000. (Average: \$12,000)

ON AN ISLAND WITH YOU (M-G-M) and **BEST MAN WINS (Col.)**—ORPHEUM (3,000) (40c-80c). Gross: \$25,000. (Average: \$27,000)

RAW DEAL (E-L) and **SONG OF MY HEART (AA)**—PARAMOUNT (1,700) (40c-80c). Gross: \$15,000. (Average: \$17,000)

RAW DEAL (E-L) and **SONG OF MY HEART (AA)**—FENWAY (1,373) (40c-80c). Gross: \$7,500. (Average: \$10,000)

TARZAN AND THE MERMAIDS (RKO Radio) and **ARGYLE SECRETS (FC)**—RKO-BOSTON (3,200) (40c-80c). Gross: \$7,500. (Average: none on summer schedule)

THE SEARCH (M-G-M)—ASTOR (1,300) (44c-80c). Gross: \$500 1 day.

UP IN CENTRAL PARK (U-I) and **STAGE STRUCK (Mono.)**—RKO MEMORIAL (3,000) (40c-80c). Gross: \$8,500. 3 days.

PITTSBURGH

With ideal weather prevailing two newcomers got away to an excellent start, but five holdovers dropped. "On an Island with You" should do better than \$21,000, while "The Fuller Brush Man" was headed for a gross of almost \$19,000. Estimated receipts for the week ending July 8:

CORONER CREEK (Col.)—SENATOR (1,700) (44c-60c-76c) 2nd week, on a moveover from the Harris. Gross: \$3,200. (Average: \$3,500)

ON AN ISLAND WITH YOU (M-G-M)—PENN (3,400) (44c-60c-76c). Gross: \$21,000. (Average: \$15,000)

RIVER LADY (U-I)—FULTON (1,700) (44c-60c-76c). Gross: \$7,000. (Average: \$9,700)

ROMANCE ON THE HIGH SEAS (WB)—STANLEY (3,800) (44c-60c-76c) 2nd week. Gross: \$9,500. (Average: \$15,000)

SUMMER HOLIDAY (M-G-M)—RITZ (1,100) (44c-60c-76c) 2nd week, on a moveover from the Penn. Gross: \$1,500. (Average: \$3,200)

THE CRUSADES (Para.)—WARNER (2,000) (44c-60c-76c). Gross: \$9,000. (Average: \$8,000)

THE FULLER BRUSH MAN (Col.)—J. P. HARRIS (2,000) (44c-60c-76c). Gross: \$18,600. (Average: \$11,000)

'Big Five'

(Continued from page 1)

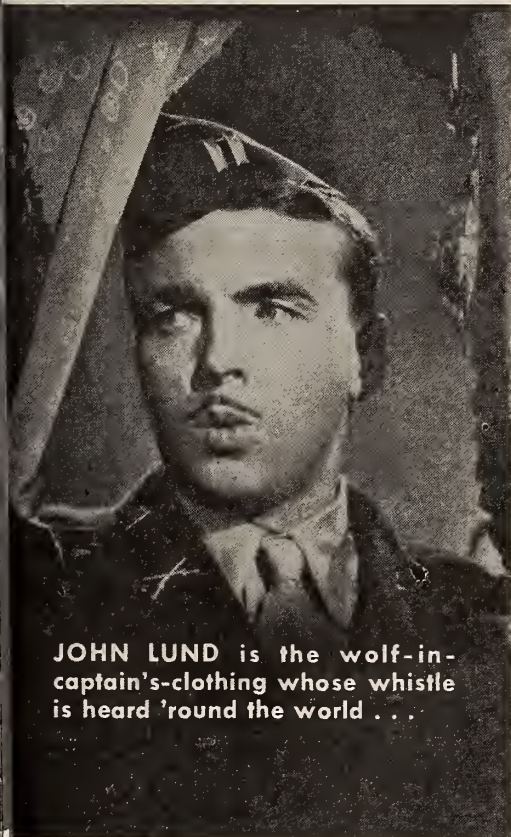
if possible, to answer the Government's questions.

The defendants have the right to apply for an extension within 10 days after service of the interrogatories. Were they to file no objection to the limitation of time, they would have to come up with answers to the Government's questions within 15 days of the date of service—a task considered impossible in this case because of the extensive nature of the information demanded by the Government.

The interrogatories constitute an initial move on the part of the Government to obtain vital data on the theatre interests of the major defendants in the Paramount trust action.

Oregon Theatre Razed

EUGENE, Ore., July 7.—Victory Theatre at Marcola, Ore., has been razed by fire, with a loss estimated at \$50,000. Chester D. Johnson and his wife are owners of the house.



JOHN LUND is the wolf-in-captain's-clothing whose whistle is heard 'round the world . . .



MILLARD MITCHELL is the man you're going to hear lots about because "he's perfectly swell" says Motion Picture Daily.

JEAN
ARTHUR
MARLENE
DIETRICH
JOHN
LUND
in
"A Foreign Affair"
with
MILLARD MITCHELL
Produced by CHARLES BRACKETT
Directed by BILLY WILDER
Screenplay by Charles Brackett, Billy Wilder, and Richard L. Breen • Adaptation by Robert Harari
A Paramount Picture

is a funny affair !!!

Short Subject

"Superman"

(Columbia Serial)

Both literally and figuratively, Columbia's latest serial, "Superman," starts off with a solid wallop. Heard on the air for years, syndicated in newspapers, and published in comic books, the exploitation value of the title is readily evident. If the formula action and excitement of the first three chapters previewed is carried out in the remaining 12, few fans are likely to want to miss a single installment. Heading the cast are Kirk Alyn, Noel Neill, Tommy Bond and Carol Forman.

Story opens with Superman arriving on earth by rocket ship from another planet that was destroyed by earthquakes. Equipped with X-ray eyes and supersensitive ears, the tale presently recounts Superman's battles against the evils of the underworld. In the course of his exploits, in the first three chapters, Superman flies through space faster than sound, rescues trapped miners, averts a train crash, frustrates bank robbers, etc. Sam Katzman produced and Spencer Bennet and Thomas Carr directed. The screenplay was written by Arthur Hoerl, Lewis Clay and Royal Cole.

To Rebuild Ala. House

ATLANTA, July 7.—The Friendly Theatre, Slocumb, Ala., was recently destroyed by fire and will be rebuilt at once.

Review

"Mr. Peabody and the Mermaid"

(Universal-International)

IN bringing to the screen "Peabody's Mermaid," the novel by Guy and Constance Jones, Nunnally Johnson once more has produced a film not only rich in entertainment values but displaying a high degree of intelligence and ingenuity in the treatment of its subject.

Johnson has functioned with rare felicity as both producer and scripter in the creation of this fanciful comedy of a man turned 50 who tries to give the lie to his waning romantic powers by falling in love with a lovely mermaid hooked during a Caribbean holiday with his wife. A finer spoof would be difficult to conceive, and it is questionable whether an exhibitor will come upon a laugh-getter more certain to please patrons of every stripe.

The picture represents smart, often touching humor marked by a wealth of bright and clever lines primed with laughter. While the story is purely a figment of the imagination, there has gone into it so much that is human that one is almost inclined to overlook the fact that the object of Mr. Peabody's affection is half woman and half fish.

Most of the fun stems from the fact that Mr. Peabody is unable to convince his wife that her rival is merely a mermaid and not the full-scale woman she is believed to be. Resultant misunderstandings are productive of a long chain of hilarious incidents and provocative dialogue, leading to a session with a psychiatrist for Mr. Peabody.

Knowing direction was provided by Irving Pichel. Gene Fowler, Jr., was associate producer. William Powell is superb as Mr. Peabody; so are Ann Blyth as the mermaid and Irene Hervey as the wife. Andrea King, Clinton Cundbert and Art Smith are a few of the other excellent performers.

Running time, 89 minutes. General audience classification. For August release. P.E.L.

RKO Meet

(Continued from page 1)

who holds the controlling interest in RKO, nor Floyd Odum, who are believed to be conferring privately, were at the studio.

Meanwhile, a report spread that the company has cancelled production of "The Robe," which producer Frank Ross has been preparing since 1942 with an estimated budget of \$4,000,000.

Studio spokesmen were under instruction to make no comment concerning this report, while Ross could not be reached for a statement. Preparations on "The Robe" have cost the studio about \$750,000 to date.

SE Projectionists to Meet

ATLANTA, July 7.—Southeastern meeting of the "Big Five" projectionists union will be held here on July 15.

N.Y. Owners To Meet

(Continued from page 1)

concerning exhibitor problems in New York." He said he is hopeful it will lead to a "more coordinated exhibitors' public relations effort to prove generally beneficial to all New York State exhibitors."

Scheduled to represent the MMPTA with Schwartz are Oscar A. Doob, executive chairman; Murray I. Gurfel, general counsel, and D. John Phillips, executive director. H. Brandt, president of the Independent Theatre Owners Association, and Morton Sunshine, executive director, also are on the list, along with Robert W. Coyne, executive director of the Theatre Owners of America, and his successor, Gael Sullivan.

Up-state New Yorkers invited include: Harry Lamont, president, and Leonard Rosenthal, general counsel of the TOA of Albany; Merritt A. Kyser, president, Motion Picture Theatre Owners of New York State, Buffalo; Vincent R. McFaul and George J. Gammel, Buffalo; Saul J. Ullman, Samuel E. Rosenblatt and Charles A. Smakwitz, Albany; William C. Smalley, Cooperstown; William Benton, Saratoga, and John W. Gardner, Schenectady.

Newman Buys Egyptian

SEATTLE, July 7.—Sale of the Egyptian Theatre in Seattle's university district was announced here by T. F. Murphy, who built the theatre 20 years ago. He sold it to the Egyptian Building Corp., the president of which is Frank L. Newman, Sr., head of Evergreen Theatres which has been operating the Egyptian. No sale price was announced but the amount is believed to be around \$350,000.

ROPE

AAA's Validity Sustained By Appeals Court

St. Louis, F. and M. Suit Dismissal Is Confirmed

ST. LOUIS, July 8.—The United States Circuit Court of Appeals here has sustained Federal Judge Duncan's dismissal of an anti-trust suit brought by the St. Louis Amusement Co., Fanchon and Marco Service Corp., and other exhibition interests, against American Arbitration Association and major film distributors.

The opinion, by Appellate Judge Harvey Johnson, parallels the U. S. Supreme Court's recent ruling that the AAA is a valid and legal system of regulation, and was delayed, the court stated, pending the Supreme Court decision.

The original suit, rising out of clearance cases filed by the Apollo Theatre (Joseph Litvag) asked \$285,000 damages and an injunction against AAA rulings, and was dismissed on a motion for summary judgment for the defendants on August 6, 1945.

'Salesmen Ignorant Of Decision': Niles

ANAMOSA, Ia., July 8.—"We find in talking to some 75 exhibitors that the sales forces of the film companies are woefully ignorant of the recent Supreme Court decision," states Charles Niles, chairman of the Allied Caravan of Iowa and Nebraska, in a bulletin sent to members. Niles cites four cases, as follows:

"A Fox salesman refused to sell eight pictures unless the exhibitor bought 'Gentleman's Agreement' and 'Captain from Castile.' The member

315 Producing Firms Netted \$109,882,000

WASHINGTON, July 8.—Income and excess profits tax returns of film producing and exhibition firms were belatedly disclosed here today by the Treasury for the calendar year 1945 and the fiscal years ending between June 1945 and June 1946.

Producing firms filed 702 returns, of which 315 showed a net income and 288 a deficit. The Treasury did not

Brazil Market Crisis Pends

Motion Picture Association of America indicated yesterday that it would avoid taking hasty action in combatting adverse distribution import developments reported from Brazil. A new Brazilian Price Control Board regulation requires that "rentals of films to exhibitors will be regulated on a percentage basis not to exceed 40 per cent for the distributor." The order perplexed foreign department executives here.

The regulation was said to have been adopted without giving distributors a chance to express their opinion of it, although exhibitors were heard. The new percentage basis virtually guarantees exhibitors 100 per cent profit on a film since the regulation provides that it will be calculated on receipts after deducting the cost on rentals of any other films which complete the program, the cost of all publicity and any other expenses

(Continued on page 4)

Mexican Industry Is Relieved of Debts

MEXICO CITY, July 8.—The film industry here is the beneficiary of two much-needed breaks, the city government cancelling the industry's debts to the city and exempting the film business from all municipal taxes.

Pardoning of the debts and the tax exemption were announced by Mayor Fernando Casas Aleman as an aid to the film trade. The privileges, however, are only for producers, distributors and studios which are wholly Mexican-owned and which are mem-

(Continued on page 4)

STUDIO PACT SET, ACTORS' STRIKE OFF

Dembow Hits Rank's 'Perfidious Policy'

The "perfidious policy" of the J. Arthur Rank Organization in England in offering the equivalent of only 50 per cent of the standard accepted price for British distribution rights for American product was attacked here yesterday by Sam Dembow, president of Producers Service Corp., which represents Triangle Pictures.

"His policy of playing off major motion picture interests against one another in the hope of obtaining outstanding product at ridiculously low prices is jeopardizing the last vestiges of good-will remaining between the British and American film industry," declared Dembow.

"Coming on the heels of the latest maneuver in Britain's war of nerves, imposition of the 45 per cent quota, the Rank bid for "Sleep, My Love" has many top American film officials incensed," Dembow said.

Dembow reported that he will release the film in the British Isles to independent theatres only.

Hersholt Warns UK On Film Legislation

LONDON, July 8.—No one can legislate to make the public attend motion pictures, Jean Hersholt, president of America's Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, told the British industry today in an address which embodied a strong plea for ending Anglo-American film controversies. The oc-

(Continued on page 4)

Hollywood Sees Accord Presaging Sharp Rise In Level of Production

By WILLIAM R. WEAVER

HOLLYWOOD, July 8.—A strike of actors which threatened to halt production on August 1 faded from the scene today on the heels of a new contract approved late Wednesday evening by the Screen Actors Guild's board of directors with the Association of Motion Picture Producers, representing the majors, and the Society of Motion Picture Producers, representing the principal independent producers. The new pact supplants the current agreement, which expires on July 31.

Production, which slipped from 34 to 31 new pictures this week, is expected to rise sharply in sequel to the accord, reached despite Universal-International's announced shutdown during

(Continued on page 5)

RKO Layoffs Pave Way for New Regime

HOLLYWOOD, July 8.—While members of the RKO board of directors were preparing for their first formal meeting with Howard Hughes, the studio has initiated substantial layoffs in several departments in a move believed to be prefatory to installation of the new regime. With a majority of the studio's writers instructed to complete scripts or present summaries of incompletes by Saturday, the departments affected by the layoffs included writers, publicity, casting, secretarial and technical.

The board meeting, which will be convened this weekend, is expected to culminate in a clear-cut definition of company policy under Hughes.

Jap Quake Killed 1,500 in Theatres

At least 1,500 persons in theatres were killed in last week's earthquake in Japan, a delayed report from Charles Mayer, Motion Picture Export Association director in Japan discloses.

Released here yesterday by the MPEA, the report revealed that in Fukui alone, all six of the city's film

(Continued on page 4)

Theatre Cancels 'Spot-News' Newsreel Received Five Days After Telecast

Salt Lake City, July 8.—Charles M. Pincus, manager of the Utah Theatre here, announced cancellation of a 20th Century-Fox Movie-tone newsreel containing mostly pictures of the Republican convention because "the same scenes were shown on television locally five days before they were made available" to his theatre. So far as is known, this is the first action of this type reported.

While there are only about 500 sets in homes in the city, downtown stores have the sets in the windows and nightly attract crowds to telecasts. Pincus explained that he is in the habit of "catching" the television shows and said the scenes in question were shown on video two days after the convention was over and were not made available for newsreel showing in the Utah until five days later or a week after the convention.

Pincus declared newsreel companies must make spot pictures available for immediate showing in cases of this type. "Television is a competitor and we must realize it," he declared.

Personal Mention

OSCAR A. DOOB, Loew's general theatre executive, left here yesterday for a vacation in Wisconsin.

DOROTHEA J. LUTJENS, personnel manager of the Motion Picture Association of America, will be married tomorrow to **ROBERT W. LITTLE**, New York engineer, at Crugers-on-the-Hudson, N. Y.

HERMAN SILVER of Columbia's special events and exploitation department, and **MRS. SILVER** have become parents of their first child, a son, **ALLAN EDWARD**, born at Women's Hospital here.

C. J. FELDMAN, Universal-International Western division sales manager, will return to New York this weekend from a tour of Des Moines, Omaha, Milwaukee and Chicago exchanges.

SAM HINSON, Selznick Releasing Organization branch manager in Charlotte, was in Atlanta this week for a sales meeting with **HENRY KRUMM**, Southern district manager.

RUTH SIMON of the Authors and Artists Guild and **FRANCINE GRAD** will produce a play on Broadway this fall.

CLARK GABLE and **KAY KYSER** and his wife are among passengers who will sail for Europe today on the *SS Queen Mary*.

BURTUS BISHOP, JR., Midwestern sales manager for M-G-M, will be in Des Moines today from Chicago and is due in Minneapolis on Monday.

MEL BALLERINO, M-G-M assistant casting director, and his wife are in town from the Coast.

CHARLES C. MOSKOWITZ, Loew's vice-president and treasurer, left here yesterday for the Coast.

I. J. HOFFMAN, head of Warner Theatres in New England, was in Boston yesterday from Albany, N. Y.

MARTIN BENNETT, RCA district manager of the sound division, was in Boston yesterday from Albany, N. Y.

NOEL MEADOW, industry publicist, and his wife, **SYLVIA**, are observing their fourth wedding anniversary.

Anna Neagle Again Tops UK Fan Poll

LONDON, July 8.—Anna Neagle has been selected "Queen of the World's Screen" for the second consecutive year by readers of *The Picturegoer*, British fan magazine. Miss Neagle's name is at the top of the list this year for the third time in the 16-year history of the poll, making her a member of the "Select Company of the Screen Elect." Only two others have reached that class: Greer Garson and Sir Laurence Olivier.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

BET on it: There will be no withdrawal from the British market by the American companies. There are reasons.

First: Division of interests makes its improbable—and perhaps impossible—to reach a basis of common procedure. Because Paramount faces a kicking around in England, Barney Balaban favors forthright action. Because 20th Century-Fox is part owner of Gaumont British via the Metropolis and Bradford Trust, Spyros Skouras is not quite as discouraged; consequently, he counsels moderation. And so on.

Second: Fifty-five per cent of British playing time remains outside the new quota which will devour the remaining 45 per cent. On the half-loaf-or-better theory, Britain continues an important market for American films.

Third: Perhaps it is an empty prospect, but much opinion looks toward the State Department for action, not merely cautious half-promise. Now that the European Recovery Program has been accepted formally by the British, attention is being redirected toward one of the essential planks of that program which makes it clear artificial trade barriers are not to be maintained against American industry.

"I am going to take my coat off to see that everybody plays his 45 per cent quota."—J. Arthur Rank at a trade press conference in London on June 14.

"J. Arthur Rank . . . acknowledged . . . certain British exhibitors are 'quite properly entitled to claim relief under Section 4 of the new cinematograph [quota] act' . . . His statement was his first acknowledgement that any exhibitor had a possible grievance. It also was an about-face in connection with his previously public-declared intention to ensure that all play 45 per cent British product with no excuses."—MOTION PICTURE DAILY, July 8, from London.

King: O, my offence is rank, it smells to heaven.—Hamlet, Act III, Scene III.

Slightly historical is the current run of "Fort Apache" at the Capitol. This is the first

RKO release to play this New York first run since "Tender Comrade," which had two weeks there beginning June 1, 1944. The reason is not difficult to find. Since RKO converted the Palace into double features, RKO distribution is minus a show window in the Times Square district and must rely on deals with outside interests.

Bob Mochrie struck one with Joe Vogel, and "Apache" entered the Capitol.

On the way, or planned, are further signs that a cycle of war films is brewing. The signs: "Rogue's Regiment," from Universal; "C.I.D. Agent," Columbia; "Sands of Iwo Jima," Republic; "These Were My Orders," Eagle-Lion.

In the American zone of occupied Germany, no person may hold a post in more than one branch of the German film industry. Nor can one person or one company own, or hold an interest in, more than 10 theatres.

Still think the Supreme Court decision was tough?

Insiders who have had opportunity of seeing "Red River" cannot contain their enthusiasm. They agree that when UA places this one from Howard Hawks in the same category as "The Covered Wagon" and "Cimarron" it is not exaggerating.

Independent producers, still feeling the urge, are being tempered by these general conditions of financing.

1.—Bank loans seldom beyond 45 per cent.

2.—Scarcity of second money.

3.—Unlimited completion bond a requirement.

Supreme Court or not, have you noticed how Karl Hoblitzelle and his Interstate Circuit are dissolving long-standing theatre partnerships in the sovereign state of Texas? Several of them date back 14 years.

According to the Treasury Department, Phil Berg, Coast agent, drew \$112,661.78, and Bert Allenberg, his partner, \$112,741.82 in 1946.

What did Bert do to rate the additional \$80.04

Griffis in New Ambassador's Post

WASHINGTON, July 8.—President Truman today named Stanton Griffis Ambassador to Egypt. Griffis, who is chairman of Paramount's executive committee, had been Ambassador to Poland. The appointment is a recess one.

It had been expected that Griffis would be appointed Ambassador to Turkey.

Sobel in FC Post

Sam Sobel has been named branch manager of Film Classics' San Francisco exchange, to replace the late Fred Abelson.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
BING CROSBY **JOAN FONTAINE**
in **"THE EMPEROR WALTZ"**
Color by **TECHNICOLOR**
A Paramount Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

Paramount presents
JEAN ARTHUR
MARLENE DIETRICH
JOHN LUND
in **"A Foreign Affair"**
Color by **TECHNICOLOR**
A Paramount Picture
Midnight Feats Nightly

JOHN FORD'S MASTERPIECE
"FORT APACHE"
In Person **LENA HORNE**
Special! **PAUL WINCHELL**
Extra! **SKINNAY ENNIS**
and his ORCH.
COOL CAPITOL 8'way & 51st St.

Walt Disney's greatest star-and-song-show!
"MELODY TIME"
Color by **TECHNICOLOR!**
Released thru RKO Radio Pictures
ASTOR 8'way & 45th St.

Cast of 10,000 in
Cecil B. DeMille's
"THE CRUSADES"
with Loretta Young - Henry Wilcoxon
A PARAMOUNT RELEASE
Scientifically Air Conditioned
RIVOLI 8'way & 49th St.
Doors Open 9:30 A.M.

DAN DAILEY
"Give My Regards To Broadway"
A 20th Century-Fox Picture in Technicolor
On Variety Stage—THE ANDREWS SISTERS
DEAN MARTIN and JERRY LEWIS
On Ice Stage—
CAROL LYNN - ARNOLD SHODA
ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

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On July 26th

“The Babe Ruth Story”

joins the list of
distinguished motion pictures
which have been presented
at America's foremost
House of Hits...

The Astor Theatre

NEW YORK CITY

World Premiere

A ROY DEL RUTH PRODUCTION • *Presented by Allied Artists*

AMPA to Support TOA 'Youth Month'

Associated Motion Picture Advertisers will support the "Youth Month" campaign sponsored by the Theatre Owners of America. This will be the first project on which the two will work together since a fundamental agreement on cooperating in public relations was made last week.

AMPA president Max Youngstein attended yesterday's meeting of the TOA here, with Robert W. Coyne, retiring director of TOA; his successor, Gael Sullivan; Earl Hudson, head of public relations for the organization, and D. John Phillips of the Metropolitan Motion Picture Theatres Association.

Thornton Sargent, head of TOA's promotion of Youth Month, is expected here from the Coast today and will work out details of the joint effort with Youngstein next week.

Youngstein Outlines AMPA Activities for Next Year

Max E. Youngstein, president of Associated Motion Picture Advertisers, at a meeting of the organization's board of trustees yesterday outlined a seven-point program which will set the pattern for AMPA's coming year's activities. The program was adopted unanimously by the board.

The program consists of the following: a stepped-up membership drive to double the present membership with the appointment of a membership captain in each film company as well as in allied crafts; plans for cooperation with exhibitor groups such as Theatre Owners of America; cooperation with Screen Publicists Guild; utilization of field exploitation men in industry public relations for AMPA membership; active recruitment of newspaper, radio and magazine personnel throughout the country who are to form a committee as consultant members of AMPA; plans for an annual organization dinner, and inauguration of AMPA awards for the best advertising, publicity and exploitation campaigns.

Skouras Urges Help For Child Aid Drive

An urgent call for aid to child victims of the war was sounded by Spyros P. Skouras, president of 20th-Fox, yesterday in an address introducing Dwight D. Eisenhower at the United Nations Appeal luncheon at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel.

Skouras said that the United Nations Appeal provides "an opportunity through our private efforts to clinch the understanding and support of the world through deeds of kindly good neighborliness in this staggering emergency." The Appeal's goal in the New York area is \$6,600,000.

Aid for Rogers Fund Pledged in Capital

WASHINGTON, July 8.—Distributors and exhibitors in the Washington area today pledged support to the industry drive to raise funds to prevent closing of the Will Rogers Memorial Hospital at Saranac Lake, N. Y. A decision on the method of raising funds locally was deferred until Monday.

The matter was put before the local trade at a luncheon sponsored by the general sales managers of the distributors and was presided over by Charles M. Reagan of Paramount, and Robert Mochrie of RKO Radio.

Quake Killed 1,500

(Continued from page 1)

theatres collapsed from the violence of the tremors and were reduced to ashes in the ensuing conflagration. The only theatre in the city playing an American film, the Chu Eiga Gekijo, was miraculously cleared of 1,300 a few minutes before the quake leveled the building. Prints of "100 Men and a Girl" were destroyed in the flames. Heaviest toll of life was taken at the Toho Theatre where over 1,000 died in the holocaust.

Mayer has authorized a series of charity performances for the benefit of the stricken in cooperation with native relief agencies.

Hersholt Warns

(Continued from page 1)

casion was the presentation of awards to five British production technicians.

The only ones who can get the public to see pictures, Hersholt declared, are those who make them and, in the final analysis, he added, the only arbiter is the public itself, whether in Britain or America. Legislatures or industrial leaders are not the arbiters, he said.

British recipients of the academy awards were: John Bryan and Alfred Junge for art direction, Wildred Shingleton for interior decoration, and Guy Green and Jack Cardiff for cinematography. British pictures involved were "Great Expectations" and "Black Narcissus."

Brazil Market Crisis

(Continued from page 1)

necessary to complete the program.

Foreign department executives here hesitated to term the measure "discriminatory," since it is yet to be seen whether similar measures will be applied against other imports. MPAA said it is waiting for a report from Joachim D. Rickard, its Rio de Janeiro representative, before taking any action of its own, and yesterday discounted press dispatches from Rio de Janeiro hinting at a boycott of Brazil's theatres.

Mexican Industry

(Continued from page 1)

bers in good standing of the Association of Mexican Picture Producers and Distributors.

Reports are that the Federal Ministry of Finance is studying proposals to follow the local government's example and forgive the trade its Federal debts and exempt it from national taxes.

Defer ECA Group Meet

WASHINGTON, July 8.—First meeting of the Economic Corporation Administration's advisory board, of which Motion Picture Association of America president Eric Johnston is a member, has been postponed from July 14 to July 16. Members will be sworn in at the meeting.

Industry Short Ready

HOLLYWOOD, July 8.—"This Theatre and You," first of the series of the industry's documentary shorts, has been completed by Gordon Hollingshead, Warner shorts department head, and prints have been shipped to Washington and New York.

Canam Will Start With Three a Year

Canam Film Productions, Ltd., new Canadian production organization, plans to make three pictures a year pending the availability of improved studio facilities in the Dominion, it was disclosed here yesterday by Robert Montgomery, former advertising-publicity executive for 20th-Fox and the J. Arthur Rank Organization, who will function as executive producer.

It was indicated by Montgomery, who is in New York from his Toronto headquarters for discussions on a releasing deal, that Canam would enlarge its program as soon as more space for production is made available. He said Canam's product would be made at no set budget, with the first picture to be "The Gallant Greenhorn," which is expected to be put into production in August from a script based on a Canadian Broadcasting Co. radio program. Canam has first call on CBC radio properties in Canada, he said.

Montgomery will return to Toronto today.

Booking of 'Rebel' Urged by Johnston

In mail sent yesterday to the secretaries of the 2,400 Chambers of Commerce in the country, Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association of America, called upon them to urge their local theatres to book "Letter to a Rebel," second in the industry's short subject series on American democracy in action.

The subject was produced by RKO Pathe as part of This is America.

Columbia Meeting On Coast Winds Up

HOLLYWOOD, July 8.—Jack Cohn, A. Schneider, Leo Jaffe, A. Montague, Nate Spingold and Joseph McConville will leave here over the weekend for New York, following a week of conferences with Harry Cohn and other executives at the Columbia studio on production plans for the year.

315 Producing Firms

(Continued from page 1)

account for the others. Those with a net income showed total receipts of \$736,387,000 and net income of \$109,882,000. They paid \$42,196,000 in income and excess profits taxes and \$34,999,000 in dividends in cash and assets other than their own stock. Firms showing a deficit had total receipts of \$31,902,000, a net deficit of \$5,621,000, and paid \$33,000 in dividends.

In exhibition, 2,852 returns were filed by firms showing a profit and 479 by firms showing a deficit. The plus returns indicated receipts of \$870,200,000, net income of \$163,559,000, income and excess profits taxes of \$94,479,000, and dividends of \$35,856,000. The deficit returns indicated receipts of \$31,852,000, deficits of \$1,990,000, and dividends of only \$17,000.

Zanuck to London

Darryl F. Zanuck, 20th Century-Fox's production vice-president, arrived in New York from the Coast yesterday preparatory to his departure immediately for London. He will then go to Germany. He will be accompanied by Mrs. Zanuck.

Fred E. Pelton, 55, Retired AMPP Aide

LOS ANGELES, July 8.—Fred E. Pelton, 55, who retired as labor representative for the Association of Motion Picture Producers last September after nine years in the post, died today. Since his retirement he had devoted himself to perfecting and marketing production efficiency in studio construction systems.

Born in Denver on Nov. 1, 1911, Pelton was educated at the U.S. Naval Academy and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. From 1922 to 1924 he was general manager of United Studios here, then joined First National Pictures as studio manager from 1925 to 1928. He became associated with M-G-M in 1929, as studio and executive manager until 1936, then as production executive for M-G-M in London from 1937 to 1939.

McPherson Burial To Be in Chicago

Funeral services for John R. McPherson, 45, joint managing director of National Screen Service, Ltd., of Great Britain, will be held in Chicago, his home city. The body is being flown from London.

McPherson, an NSS veteran, died in London Wednesday. He was branch manager in Chicago for years, later becoming Western division manager and finally an executive at the home office in New York. His mother and two sisters survive.

Harry Fried, Phila. Exhibitor, Succumbs

PHILADELPHIA, July 8.—Harry Fried, 58, well-known suburban exhibitor, died today after an illness of several weeks in Bryn Mawr Hospital. A native of Russia, Fried came to this country when he was 16. He operated the Anthony Wayne Theatre in Wayne, the Suburban in Ardmore and two houses in Conshohocken.

Survivors include the widow, Florence, six children and a brother, Morris. Funeral services will be held tomorrow.

Services for Roxy's Brother, Max, 65

Private funeral rites were held yesterday for Max Rothafel, 65, brother of the late Samuel L. Rothafel. Death came on Tuesday after a heart attack.

Among survivors are the widow, a daughter and a son, Robert C. Rothafel, a district manager of Fox West Coast Theatres Corp.

Rothafel was stricken the day after his return from a trip to Brazil, where he represented the Instituto de Caco de Brasil.

Mrs. Paul Benjamin

Mrs. Lucille Benjamin, wife of Paul Benjamin, National Screen Service executive, died on Wednesday at Miami Shores, Fla., after a year's illness. A son, William, also survives.

Republic 28-Week Net Is \$236,832

Republic Pictures and subsidiaries report a net profit after taxes of \$236,832 for the 26 weeks ended April 26, compared with earnings of \$656,297 for the same period of 1947.

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY correspondents. Estimates omit admission tax.

LOS ANGELES

Weather was too good, beaches and baseball too attractive, and the out-of-doors in general too alluring for box-office welfare generally over the long holiday. Estimated receipts for the week ended July 7:

BERLIN EXPRESS (RKO Radio) and STAGE STRUCK (Mono.)—BELMONT (1,600) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00). Gross: \$7,000. (Average: \$5,750)

BERLIN EXPRESS (RKO Radio) and STAGE STRUCK (Mono.)—EL REY (861) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00). Gross: \$8,500. (Average: \$5,700)

BERLIN EXPRESS (RKO Radio) and STAGE STRUCK (Mono.)—ORPHEUM (2,210) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00). Gross: \$18,000. (Average: \$14,650)

BERLIN EXPRESS (RKO Radio) and STAGE STRUCK (Mono.)—VOGUE (800) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00). Gross: \$8,500. (Average: \$6,500)

THE FULLER BRUSH MAN (Col.) and THUNDERHOOF (Col.)—HILLSTREET (2,700) (50c-60c-80c-\$1.00) 3rd week. Gross: \$20,000. (Average: \$18,950)

THE FULLER BRUSH MAN (Col.) and THUNDERHOOF (Col.)—PANTAGES (2,700) (50c-60c-80c-\$1.00) 3rd week. Gross: \$19,000. (Average: \$17,150)

HAZARD (Para.) and WATERFRONT AT MIDNIGHT (Para.)—PARAMOUNT (Downtown) (3,395) (50c-60c-80c-\$1.00). Gross: \$14,000. (Average: \$16,450)

HAZARD (Para.) and WATERFRONT AT MIDNIGHT (Para.)—PARAMOUNT (Hollywood) (1,407) (50c-60c-80c-\$1.00). Gross: \$10,500. (Average: \$13,000)

ON OUR MERRY WAY (UA-Bogaus)—MUSIC HALL (Beverly Hills) (900) (65c-85c-\$1.00) 4th week. Gross: \$2,500. (Average: \$3,150)

ON OUR MERRY WAY (UA-Bogaus)—MUSIC HALL (Downtown) (900) (65c-85c-\$1.00) 4th week. Gross: \$5,000. (Average: \$7,550)

ON OUR MERRY WAY (UA-Bogaus)—MUSIC HALL (Hawaii) (1,000) (65c-85c-\$1.00) 4th week. Gross: \$2,600. (Average: \$3,400)

ON OUR MERRY WAY (UA-Bogaus)—MUSIC HALL (Hollywood) (490) (65c-85c-\$1.00) 4th week. Gross: \$2,200. (Average: \$3,100)

THE PIRATE (M-G-M)—EGYPTIAN (1,000) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: \$11,500. (Average: \$11,900)

THE PIRATE (M-G-M)—FOX - WILSHIRE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: \$11,500. (Average: \$12,850)

THE PIRATE (M-G-M)—LOS ANGELES (2,096) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: \$18,000. (Average: \$18,100)

ROMANCE ON THE HIGH SEAS (WB)—WARNERS (Downtown) (3,400) (50c-60c-80c-\$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: \$11,500. (Average: \$13,730)

ROMANCE ON THE HIGH SEAS (WB)—WARNERS (Hollywood) (3,000) (50c-60c-80c-\$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: \$10,000. (Average: \$11,650)

ROMANCE ON THE HIGH SEAS (WB)—WARNERS (Wilmett) (2,300) (50c-60c-80c-\$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: \$9,000. (Average: \$11,220)

THE SEARCH (M-G-M)—FOUR STAR (900) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00). Gross: \$10,000. (Average: \$7,450)

THE STREET WITH NO NAME (20th-Fox) and HERE COMES TROUBLE (UA-Roach)—CARTHAY CIRCLE (1,516) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: \$10,000. (Average: \$9,500)

THE STREET WITH NO NAME (20th-Fox) and HERE COMES TROUBLE (UA-Roach)—CHINESE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: \$14,500. (Average: \$13,000)

THE STREET WITH NO NAME (20th-Fox) and HERE COMES TROUBLE (UA-Roach)—LOEW'S SATE (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: \$26,500. (Average: \$19,800)

THE STREET WITH NO NAME (20th-Fox) and HERE COMES TROUBLE (UA-Roach)—LOYOLA (1,265) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: \$10,000. (Average: \$10,000)

THE STREET WITH NO NAME (20th-Fox) and HERE COMES TROUBLE (UA-Roach)—UPTOWN (1,716) (50c-60c-85c-

Review

"The Illegals"

(Mayer-Burstyn)

ONE of the most ruthlessly honest and solemnly engrossing documentary-dramas in many seasons is presented in "The Illegals," depicting the exodus of displaced Jews from Europe to Palestine by way of the underground. Made at a relatively modest budget, the picture teems with genuine touches and unadorned simplicity. Even in its repetitiveness the film never loses its dominating power. Within the sphere of selective audiences it should enjoy a whopping popularity, especially since the theme is one that receives daily prominence in newspapers of the nation.

Meyer Levin, an author of note in his own right, wrote, directed and produced the production for Americans for Haganah. While all of the material is factual, it is highlighted dramatically through the device of having the cameras center on a young married couple who take the hazardous journey of escape with hundreds of others. The cameras record neutrally the struggles and hardships of the long trek across several countries, followed by a harrowing sea voyage. No standard Hollywood ending closes the drama. As the beleaguered group reaches its journey's end, it is barred from entering Palestine by British warships.

The narration provided by Levin is an admirable job that never once stoops to the irony or sarcasm that easily might have been provoked. The drama is one that is washed with human agony but not without rays of hope. The young couple in the cast are Tereska Torres and Yankel Mikalowitch. "The illegals" are themselves.

Running time, 75 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, July 12. MANDEL HERBSTMAN

\$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: \$10,500. (Average: \$10,100)

UP IN CENTRAL PARK (U-I) and DEVIL'S CARGO (FC)—GUILD (965) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: \$3,500. (Average: \$5,450)

UP IN CENTRAL PARK (U-I) and DEVIL'S CARGO (FC)—IRIS (708) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: \$4,000. (Average: \$6,100)

UP IN CENTRAL PARK (U-I) and DEVIL'S CARGO (FC)—RITZ (1,376) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: \$5,500. (Average: \$9,050)

UP IN CENTRAL PARK (U-I) and DEVIL'S CARGO (FC)—STUDIO (880) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: \$4,000. (Average: \$6,300)

UP IN CENTRAL PARK (U-I) and DEVIL'S CARGO (FC)—UNITED ARTISTS (2,100) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: \$3,900. (Average: \$9,580)

CHICAGO

Ideal weekend holiday weather catered to the masses who left town, leaving the Loop with modest attendance. Arriving conventioners should perk things up considerably. Best of the lot is "Green Grass of Wyoming," with Peggy Lee in person. Estimated receipts for the week ended July 8:

ANOTHER PART OF THE FOREST (U-I)—GRAND (1,150) (50c-65c-98c). Gross: \$12,000. (Average: \$11,500)

ARCH OF TRIUMPH (UA)—WOODS (1,080) (98c) 3rd week. Gross: \$15,000. (Average: \$23,000)

B. F.'S DAUGHTER (M-G-M)—UNITED ARTISTS (1,700) (50c-65c-98c). Gross: \$18,000. (Average: \$20,000)

CORONER CREEK (Col.)—ROOSEVELT (1,500) (50c-65c-98c). Gross: \$13,000. (Average: \$18,000)

FOUR FACES WEST (UA)—APOLLO (1,200) (50c-65c-98c) 2nd week. Gross: \$10,000. (Average: \$14,000)

GREEN GRASS OF WYOMING (20th-Fox)—CHICAGO (3,900) (50c-65c-98c). On stage: Peggy Lee. Gross: \$45,000. (Average: \$40,000)

MR. BLANDINGS BUILDS HIS DREAM HOUSE (SRO)—STATE LAKE—(2,700) (50c-65c-98c) 6 days. 2nd week. Gross: \$22,000. (Average: \$30,000)

THUNDER IN THE VALLEY (20th-Fox)—ORIENTAL (3,300) (98c). On stage: Three Stooges. Gross: \$40,000. (Average: \$40,000)

UP IN CENTRAL PARK (U-I)—PALACE (2,500) (50c-65c-98c). Gross: \$19,000. (Average: \$21,000)

3 for E-L on Broadway

With two Eagle-Lion first-runs having opened on Broadway this week, the company has still another set for next week. The two that bowed in this week are "Canon City," at Loew's Criterion, and "Raw Deal," at the Victoria. Opening at the Gotham on July 17 is "Mickey."

Actors' Strike Off

(Continued from page 1)

ing August, a sharp reduction in activity at RKO Radio due to changes in studio management there and today's persistent reports that M-G-M will enter a temporary period of curtailment. However, all studios, except Warner, have been delaying shooting commitments, apprehensive that the SAG-producer negotiations might fail and catch them in mid-stream.

Video Talks to Continue

The SAG board has approved a contract running to Dec. 1, 1950, with the privilege of reopening negotiations at the end of next year. Approval, moreover, is conditioned on an agreement being reached providing for continuation of negotiations on television and other points high on the SAG agenda. However, all parties are confident a final agreement will be effected before the close of this year. Furthermore, it is anticipated that a contract with Independent Motion Picture Producers Association, representing small-budget independents, will be closed in the near future, thereby removing the last impediment to production insofar as actors are concerned.

The controversial television issue which had caused a break in negotiations early in April was resolved in sub-committee when both sides agreed that acting for video is different from performing for films designed for regulation motion picture theatres and, therefore, warrants a separate contract which will be worked out. The key point, which is whether actors are to receive additional compensation when theatre films are made available for telecasting, was bypassed by a clause reading:

60 Days' Cancellation Clause

"If producers should decide to license for television any film made and released after August 1, 1948, and up to December 1, 1950, the Guild may cancel this contract on 60 days' notice. Such cancellation, however, shall not be exercised before January 1, 1949."

It is understood negotiators for both sides felt any final decision on this point should await developments in the rapidly changing video situation.

Reissues, concerning which the SAG seeks assurance that the number of revivals will be restricted to a small percentage of total theatre playing time, are among secondary issues on which negotiations will be continued in weekly meetings. The new contract guarantees a 100 per cent union shop.

In a joint statement, all principals stated: "We hope this agreement will be the go-ahead signal for increased production in Hollywood."

MMPTA Aid Pledged To NYC Celebration

Support of the Metropolitan Motion Picture Theatres Association for the Golden Jubilee celebration of New York City has been pledged to Mayor William O'Dwyer by the MMPTA executive committee, comprising Fred J. Schwartz, Century Circuit; Oscar A. Doob, Loew's; Julius Joelson, J. and J. Circuit; Samuel Rinzler, Randforce Circuit, and Robert M. Weitman, managing director of the Paramount. D. John Phillips is executive director of the association.

Ignorant of Decision

(Continued from page 1)

told the salesman he didn't want the two pictures but would buy the balance. The salesman said he couldn't buy any if he didn't take them all."

"RKO refused to confirm and approve 'Best Years of Our Lives' because the exhibitor had not and would not buy the two previous Goldwyn pictures 'Mitty' and 'Bishop's Wife.'"

"A Warner Brothers salesman refused to eliminate two pictures on a deal and told the exhibitor that hereafter if they wanted a deal they could come to him."

"A Paramount salesman refused to eliminate a picture on a deal and said his office would not stand for it."

Continued Niles: "All of these cases are flagrant violations of the decree, that plainly states that the sale of any picture shall not be contingent on the sale of another. We advise the sales forces hereafter to stop these unlawful selling tactics."

Blair on Committee

Harry Blair of RKO Radio Pictures, has joined the public relations committee of the Motion Picture Associates. Blair replaces Edward Schreiber who has left the industry. Other members of the committee are: Leon J. Bamberger, Myron Siegel and William Ornstein.

Raibourn On the Air

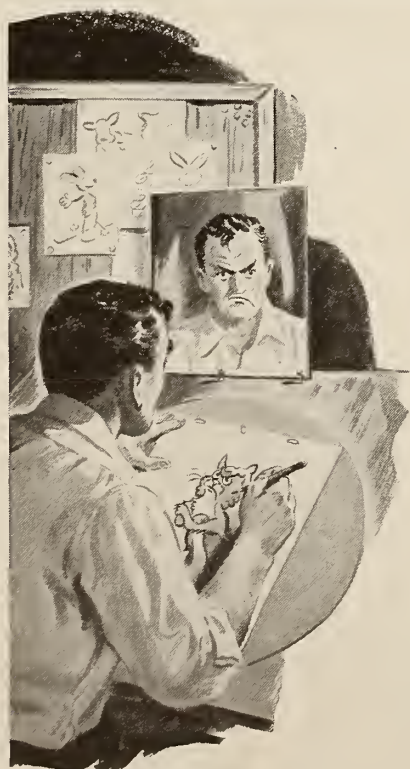
Paul Raibourn, vice-president in charge of television for Paramount, will be interviewed by Tex McCrary and Jinx Falkenberg on their "Hi! Jinx" radio program, WNBC, today.

OF COURSE

you'll make money with...

"TEXAS, BROOKLYN and HEAVEN"

sent from UA



His pen-and-ink people live for laughter...

BORN on the drawing board, though they are, these little people have the breath of life and laughter that captures hearts the world around—thanks to the creative genius of the animator.

His knowing lines belie the fact that they are folk of fantasy... of pen and ink and paint. For each and every one has the human touch... has been fully endowed with character and lifelike move-

ment, through the animator's artistry.

Yet—for all his wit and skill—the animator could not present his gift of laughter to the moviegoin' world without the help of film. And this—in types especially adapted to his needs—he finds in the famous Eastman family, whose Fine Grain Master Positive and Background X Negative have been the animator's faithful mediums for many years.

EASTMAN KODAK COMPANY

ROCHESTER 4, N. Y.

J. E. BRULATOUR, INC., DISTRIBUTORS

FORT LEE • CHICAGO • HOLLYWOOD

'Big 5' to Get More Time On Divorce Data

Gov't Expected to Set New Deadline This Week

The "Big Five" on Friday were victorious in their efforts to obtain an extension of time from the Department of Justice for the submission of answers to interrogatories on joint theatre ownerships and which were served on the defendants on July 1 under the divestiture clauses of the U. S. Supreme Court decision in the industry anti-trust case.

Conversations with Robert L. Wright brought assurances from the special assistant to the U. S. Attorney General that the deadline for the filing of answers would be moved back. Wright is said to have recognized that the extensive and detailed information sought by the Government could not be gathered by the five defendants in the 15 days allowed them by the Department of Justice when the interrogatories were served.

How much time beyond July 16 the

Brazil's 40% Rule Attacked

SAO PAULO, Brazil, July 11.—Stiff fighting is foreseen here among exhibitors and between American film distributors and the Brazilian Price Control Board over the board's new order limiting distributors' film percentages to 40 per cent. The distributors, moving fast to the attack, have already sought a court order to stay execution of the surprise regulation.

Meanwhile, a large segment of the industry here is charging that the Control Board is not constitutional.

Thus far, there has been no move

5th-Walnut Loses Bid for New Trial

Fifth and Walnut Amusement Co. on Friday was denied motion for a new trial of its anti-trust suit against distributors and for setting aside the June 29 jury verdict in U. S. District Court here dismissing the distributor-defendants. Federal Judge Vincent L. Leibel told the plaintiff's attorney,

Video Pickup Rights Given To Paramount

Precluding the possibility of any legal entanglement, as anticipated in some quarters, the General Television Committee for Pooled Coverage of the National Political Conventions, reversing its original position, has agreed to permit the Paramount Theatre here to pick up any part of the video account of the Democratic national convention in Philadelphia this week, for reproduction on its large screen in New York.

The Paramount will use its special feed-line which directly connects its projection booth, and where a special receiver is located, with the Telephone Building here at which point the television images of the convention will be received by coaxial cable.

Paramount plans to project only

Hearing Today on 1st NCA-Fox Complaint

MINNEAPOLIS, July 11.—Complaints charging unfair trade practices by 20th-Fox against independent theatre owners in the Minneapolis zone are being compiled by North Central Allied for presentation to the unit's grievance board, set up in an effort to conciliate complaints and stymie proposed court action.

First meeting of the NCA grievance committee will be held here tomorrow, and it was believed that only two cases may be brought before the board

"Red River"

[Monterey-United Artists] — This One Is BIG

UNITED ARTISTS has been going lavish on claims for "Red River." This is to report, and early in this review, that for once there has been no exaggeration.

This attraction has a dramatic roar like thunder. It is a big show on all required counts—production know-how and direction, performances, story and background—intelligently and imaginatively packaged for a composite result which projects "Red River" into the august company of titans of the past like "The Covered Wagon" and "Cimarron."

Howard Hawks, who produced and directed, draws the chief credit. He had many assists behind and in front of the camera, of course. But in his dual capacities, he and no one else held the key. John Wayne, Montgomery Clift—watch him in days to come—and Walter Brennan comprised his three principals, with Joanne Dru as the unimportant feminine foil in an interesting enough, but pedestrian, story of the early West. "The Chisholm Trail," Saturday Evening Post yarn by Borden

Ontario Theatres Face New Blackout

Toronto, July 11. — The electric-power situation in Ontario commencing next October will again be critical and restrictive regulations will be necessary, warns Chairman R. H. Saunders of the Ontario Hydro-Electric Power Commission.

Outdoor theatre and other illumination and displays will be banned, thus bringing back the conditions of last winter for almost all of Ontario.

50% Slash at RKO As Board Convenes

HOLLYWOOD, July 11.—Approximately half of RKO's permanent studio personnel received dismissal notices on Saturday in what is interpreted as an indication that production activity will be halted, except for films now shooting, pending implementation of new policies to be decided upon by the board of directors in the next few days. Board sessions, which are expected to continue for several days, started today with Howard Hughes slated to disclose his plans for the first time to the directorate.

Typical of the layoffs in all studio departments, according to reports, the publicity staff lost 14 publicists and five clerks, leaving 15 publicists and nine clerks still on the payroll. The weekend cut of 50 per cent is in addition to a large number of "single picture" personnel and technical workers whose employment was terminated during the past two weeks as a result of the cancellation of three films which were ready for shooting.

UA Swings to Bid Selling In Chicago

'Arch' Will Lead Test Prompted by Loop Decree

CHICAGO, July 11.—United Artists will sell forthcoming product here on an experimental picture-to-picture basis under competitive bidding, thus joining 20th Century-Fox, RKO Radio and M-G-M which have been selling by bids as a result of the Jackson Park decree.

First UA release under the plan is "Arch of Triumph" which terminated its Loop run today and will become available for initial subsequent-run dates July 30 under a theatre zoning plan which UA has developed.

The distributor has divided Chicago and suburbs, exclusive of Loop first-runs, into 11 major zones. These zones, in turn, are broken down into the first exclusive zone, the exclusive sub-zone and the second sub-zone. For

To Probe U.K. Defaulters

LONDON, July 11.—Moving to obviate the possibility of theatre defaulters under the new 45 per cent Quota Act, the British Film Producers' Association has formed a fact-finding division which will look into the programming of every theatre in this country, according to BFPA director general Sir Henry French.

The action admittedly implements J. Arthur Rank's assertion at the time of the new quota's adoption, to the effect that he was going to prepare

Robert Clark Heads ABPC Production

LONDON, July 11.—Promotions continue in the top ranks of Associated British Pictures Corp., with the naming of Robert Clark, production executive, to be executive director in charge of all production. Clark was an old associate of the late John Maxwell and his appointment is considered

North Central Allied Calls Two Meetings

MINNEAPOLIS, July 11.—North Central Allied will meet on Tuesday, August 3, at Fargo, and again on Wednesday, August 4, at Devil's Lake, to discuss and act on trade practices and exhibitor problems of the day. Two sessions were set up to enable all North Dakota and Northeast Minnesota theatre operators to attend. Benjamin N. Berger, NCA president, and Stanley D. Kane, executive director, will preside. The board is expected to attend in full.

Topping the agenda will be a forum on the U. S. Supreme Court decision in the Paramount anti-trust case "and its present and future effect on the small-town independent exhibitor." Clearance will be taken up, likewise conditioning the sale of one picture on another, film transportation costs and the new NCA-20th Century-Fox conciliation plan.

Theatres Hit Penalty On Bakersfield Tax

BAKERSFIELD, Cal., July 11.—A new development in the battle between this city and Fox Bakersfield Theatre Corp. and Fox Paradise Theatre Corp., arose with the levying of an assessment on the two companies. Immediate protest was voiced by the theatres against the "excessive" levies and the companies, while filing actual returns, included no payments.

Last January the theatre corporations refused to pay their January-March installment on the 10 per cent city amusement tax, maintaining that the tax is unconstitutional. The city council was expected to impose a 25 per cent penalty on the companies as a penalty for non-payment as provided in the city ordinance.

Industry Council Meet Off a Week

HOLLYWOOD, July 11.—Scheduled July 13 meeting of studio, guild and union representatives on preparations for setting up an industry council to guide public relations has been postponed to July 20, with Motion Picture Association of America's Eric Johnston expected to preside.

Cannella in Fielding Post

Commissioner John M. Cannella of the Department of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity, was appointed and sworn in on Friday by Mayor William O'Dwyer as the Commissioner of Licenses for New York City. Cannella succeeds Benjamin Fielding who resigned to join Loew's here.

Drive-In for O. C. Lam

ATLANTA, July 11.—O. C. Lam, president of the Lam Amusement Co., Rome, Ga., will start construction of drive-in theatres in Rome and La Grange, Ga.

Everett's New Theatre

ATLANTA, July 11.—The New Erwin Theatre, owned by Fred Everett, in Erwin, Ga., will open to the public this week.

Personal Mention

JOHN JOSEPH, Universal-International advertising-publicity director, is due here tomorrow from the Coast.

CARTER BARRON, Loew's Eastern division manager and Washington studio representative for M-G-M, is recovering in Doctors Hospital in the Capital from a knee operation resulting from an old football injury.

MEYER LEVIN, producer of "The Illegals," has been awarded the "Medal of Freedom" by the U. S. Army Air Force for his service as war correspondent with the Ninth Air Force.

LEON J. BAMBERGER, RKO Radio sales promotion manager, and MRS. BAMBERGER and their daughter, Lois, will leave here on Thursday for a vacation in Minnesota.

RICARDO CORTEZ, who has been here a month negotiating for story properties and discussing video deals, left here yesterday by plane for the Coast.

BEN WIRTH, president of Warner Service Corp., and HAROLD RODNER, vice-president, left here over the weekend for Chicago and Milwaukee.

MONTY SHAFF, co-producer of "Man-Eater of Kumaon," left here at the weekend for Hollywood.

CHARLES and EVELYN LEE JONES are on a Caribbean cruise.

EDMUND C. GRAINGER of the Shea Circuit is touring the circuit's houses in Ohio, Pennsylvania and New York.

LARRY CLELAND, managing director of the Vee Publishing Co., representing Fawcett Publications in Australia and New Zealand, is in New York from Melbourne.

J. DON ALEXANDER, president of Alexander Film Co. and chairman of the board of General Screen Advertising, is in town from Colorado Springs.

SEYMOUR EICHMAN, Astor Pictures advertising-publicity director, left here over the weekend with his wife for a vacation in New England.

GEORGE D. BURROWS, executive vice-president and treasurer of Allied Artists-Monogram, has returned to Hollywood from New York.

HANS RICHTER, producer-director, left here over the weekend for Los Angeles.

BERNARD J. GATES, Latin American supervisor for Monogram, is in Panama, Canal Zone, from Mexico City.

JAMES R. GRAINGER, Republic distribution vice-president, has left here for Los Angeles and San Francisco.

ARTHUR FREED, M-G-M producer, is due here this week from Hollywood.

\$4,000,000 Tieup For 'Babe Ruth'

Some \$4,000,000 will be spent by national advertisers in tieups publicizing Roy Del Ruth's "The Babe Ruth Story," it was announced here at the weekend by president Steve Broidy of Allied Artists.

Sponsors will include Chesterfield, Royal Crown Cola, Tootsie Roll, Benrus Watch, General Electric, Cracker Jack, Popsicle, Ford Motors, Quaker Oats, Cigar Institute, Lux, Big Yank, National League, American League, A. G. Spalding, Hillerich and Bradsby, Persona Blades, White Tower Restaurants, General Motors, Jantzen, Owens-Illinois Glass, Wheatland Tubes, Liquinet, Palomino Shirts, and several others.

St. Louis Theatre Cave-in, Nine Hurt

ST. LOUIS, July 11.—A section of the roof of the Senate Theatre here collapsed during a matinee performance when the wall of an adjacent building crashed down on it. A tentative list of nine persons injured was issued after the accident. Some 150 persons were in the theatre, and from 30 to 50 were in the balcony, where the avalanche of bricks and plaster descended.

Marcus Goldman, manager, requested the patrons to leave the balcony after the first signs of the collapse of the adjacent building, and was calling firemen when the roof caved in.

IMPPA Approval of SAG Pact This Week

HOLLYWOOD, July 11.—The Independent Motion Picture Producers Association will hold a meeting early this week to consider the new Screen Actors Guild contract presented by the latter following the completion of its negotiations with the Association of Motion Picture Producers and the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers. It is believed that confirmation will be little more than a formality.

Youngstein Heads Eagle-Lion Drive

Max E. Youngstein, Eagle-Lion vice-president in charge of advertising-publicity, has been named captain of the company's "Bill Heineman Sales Drive," nationwide campaign in honor of the company's vice-president in charge of distribution, which will run through December 2.

Film Rights to Marathon

Film rights to "New York Confidential" by Jack Lait and Lee Mortimer have been sold in advance of the book's publication by Ziff-Davis Publishing Co. to Marathon Pictures, new film unit headed by Harry Brandt and Frank Satenstein. Purchase price was said to be \$5,000 plus a percentage of the film's gross. It will be filmed entirely in New York, with production scheduled to start in early fall.

Newsreel Parade

THE earthquake in Japan, and U. S. planes sending food shipments into Berlin mark newsreel highlights. Flashes of President Truman and General Eisenhower, as well as sports and other items, round out the reels. Complete contents follow:

MOVIE-TONE NEWS, No. 55—Jap city wiped out by earthquake. U. S. planes food shortage in Berlin crisis. Eisenhower greets fellow freshmen at Columbia University. Sports: tennis. Tight-rope daredevil. Stock car race. Bathing beauty contest.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 289—Earthquake in Japan. Political spotlight: President Truman, General Eisenhower, William O. Douglas. U. S. fliers defy Red blockade of Berlin. Chinese glamour girls in bathing beauty contest. Mountain iced for midsummer skiing. Tight-rope walk over the Alps.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 92—Earthquake in Japan. Bavarian Alps tight-rope sensation. Personalities in the news: General Eisenhower, Jimmy Roosevelt, Harry Truman. Ski jumping.

UNIVERSAL NEWS, No. 159—Berlin supply trains fight food blockade. Earthquake strikes Japan. Truman lauds Pan-American friendship. Sports: stock-car race, skiing.

WARNER PATHE NEWS, No. 94—Earthquake in Japan. People in the news: President Truman, General Eisenhower, Frieda Hennek. German rope-walker, Chinatown beauties. Sports: rowing, tennis, summer skiing. Great Americans: John Quincy Adams.

First RKO Regional Will Convene Today

BUFFALO, July 11.—Final arrangements were completed today for the first of five zonal meetings of RKO Radio Pictures, Inc. sales executives, which will start here tomorrow under the direction of Robert Mochrie, distribution vice-president. Mochrie will also preside at the other four gatherings, spread across the country, in the next fortnight. A review of business matters, product schedule and announcements of winners in the "Ned Depinet Drive" will be on the agenda.

A home office delegation will include Eastern division manager Nat Levy, short subject sales manager Harry Michelson, A. A. Schubart, manager of exchange operations and Levy's assistant, Frank Drumm.

Ad Film Charges Heard on July 26

WASHINGTON, July 11.—Federal Trade Commission has scheduled hearings for July 26 at Indianapolis on its "unfair competition" complaint against four producers of advertising films, Ray-Bell Films, Alexander Film Co., United Film Ad Service and Motion Picture Advertising Service Co. Hearings have already been held in other cities.

Reserves Brandt Ruling

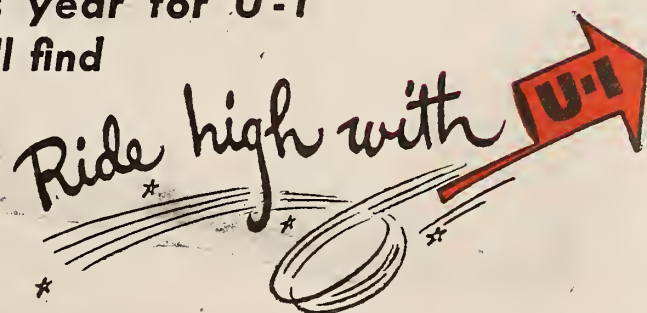
New York Supreme Court Justice James B. McNally on Friday reserved decision on motions by Paramount to eliminate eight of the 160-odd defendants from the company's \$563,265 percentage action against Brandt Theatres, et al, and to add eight new defendants.

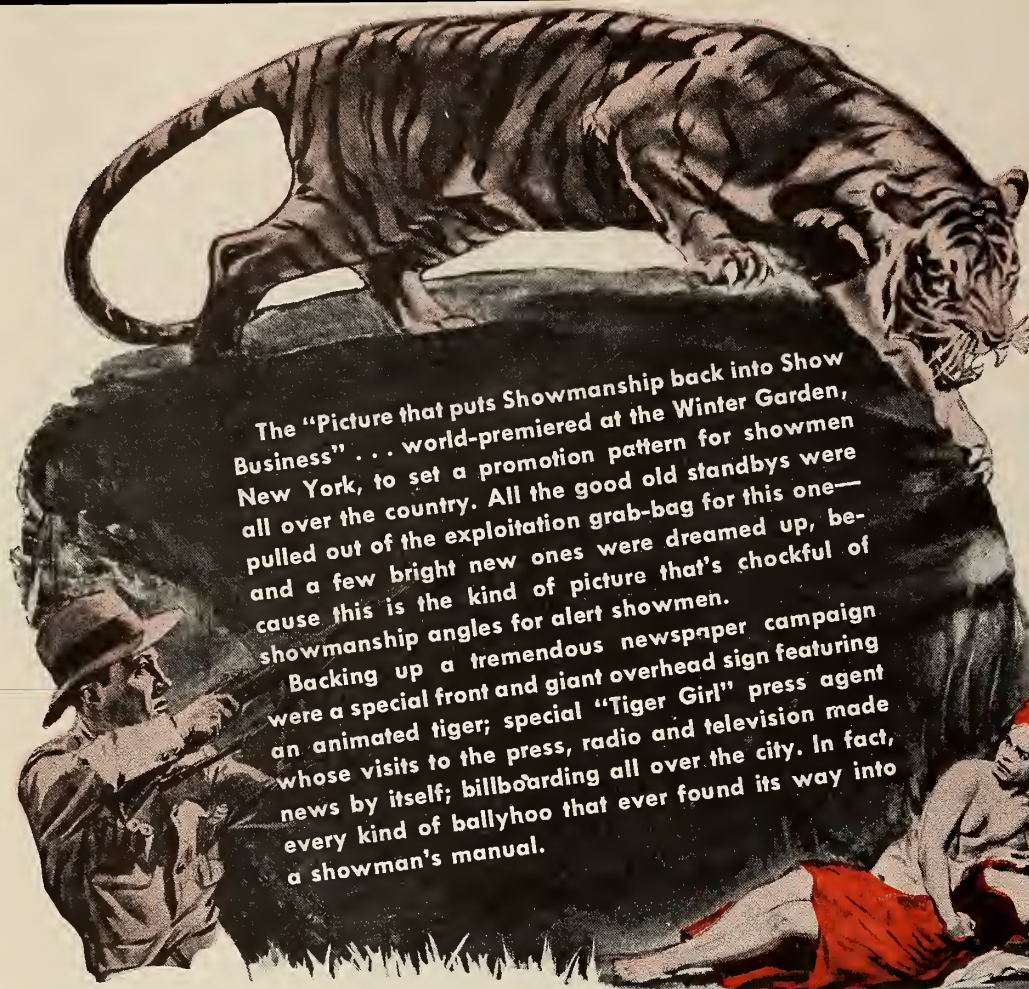
JULY *is* *World* *Premiere* *month* *at* **U-I**

We're mighty proud of the brand new industry record for activity Universal-International has lined up for July. There'll be four action-packed world premieres of four fine U-I pictures built strictly for box-office — "Tap Roots," "Man-Eater of Kumaon," "Feudin', Fussin' and A-Fightin'" and "Mr. Peabody and the Mermaid."

Such activity calls for a maximum of promotion power, so we've built up our staff and put on a special field force to campaign these pictures in a manner that will guarantee you tremendous national publicity penetration as well as pre-tested promotions to cash in on when you play these attractions.

There'll be no summer doldrums this year for U-I exhibitors! Just turn the page and you'll find four solid reasons why you always...





The "Picture that puts Showmanship back into Show Business" . . . world-premiered at the Winter Garden, New York, to set a promotion pattern for showmen all over the country. All the good old standbys were pulled out of the exploitation grab-bag for this one—and a few bright new ones were dreamed up, because this is the kind of picture that's chockful of showmanship angles for alert showmen.

Backing up a tremendous newspaper campaign were a special front and giant overhead sign featuring an animated tiger; special "Tiger Girl" press agent whose visits to the press, radio and television made news by itself; billboarding all over the city. In fact, every kind of ballyhoo that ever found its way into a showman's manual.

MAN-EATER OF KUMAON

Starring
SABU · JOANNE PAGE
AS "NARAIN" AS "LALI"

and
WENDELL COREY
AS THE HUNTER
with MORRIS CARNOVSKY

Based on the Book "MAN-EATERS OF KUMAON" by JIM CORBETT Screenplay by JEANNE BARTLETT and LEWIS MELTZER Adaptation by RICHARD G. HUBLER and ALDEN NASH

Directed by **BYRON HASKIN** · Produced by **MONTY SHAFF** · In association with **FRANK P. ROSENBERG**

A UNIVERSAL
INTERNATIONAL
RELEASE

JULY



"FEUDIN' FUSSIN' And A-FIGHTIN'"

Universal-
International
presents

DONALD O'CONNOR

MA 'N PA KETTLE OF "THE EGG AND I"

MARJORIE MAIN
PERCY KILBRIDE

Together Again!

The Tri-State Circuit gets this one, teeing off in Des Moines and Omaha on July 8 with fun, hilarity and plenty of space-grabbing stunts surrounding personal appearances by Marjorie Main, Penny Edwards and Joe Besser.

Watch the grosses on this one as it plays the circuit in Sioux City, Waterloo, Grand Rapids, Davenport, Rock Island and Moline and then continues on to Minneapolis, Milwaukee, Indianapolis and all around the Mid-West.

with **PENNY EDWARDS · JOE BESSER**

Screenplay by D. D. BEAUCHAMP from his Collier's Magazine Story
Directed by **GEORGE SHERMAN** · Produced by **LEONARD GOLDSTEIN**



Walter Wanger presents

TAP ROOTS

COLOR BY
Technicolor!

Starring
VAN HEFLIN • SUSAN HAYWARD

with **BORIS KARLOFF • JULIE LONDON • WARD BOND**
RICHARD LONG and Introducing **WHITFIELD CONNOR**

Screenplay by Alan LeMay • Additional Dialogue by Lionel Wiggam • Produced by Walter Wanger Pictures, Inc.
A George Marshall Production • A UNIVERSAL-INTERNATIONAL RELEASE

Directed by
GEORGE MARSHALL



Timed to share headlines with the Democratic National Convention, "Tap Roots" premieres at the Goldman Theatre in spotlighted Philadelphia on July 14, spearheading day-and-date regional kick-offs in Atlantic City, Allentown, Bethlehem, Harrisburg, Reading, Ocean City, Easton, Lancaster, York and Wilmington.

Hollywood stars brought in from the studio for personal appearances! Full page newspaper ads and complete outdoor coverage! National radio hook-ups including ABC's "Go for the House," NBC's "Supper Club" show and Mutual's "Heart's Desire" program! Comprehensive national magazine and newspaper co-operative ad tie-ups with Chesterfield, General Electric and Lux!

More than a thousand newspaper, radio and television reporters and commentators covering the Convention will have their eyes—and their pencils—on "Tap Roots."

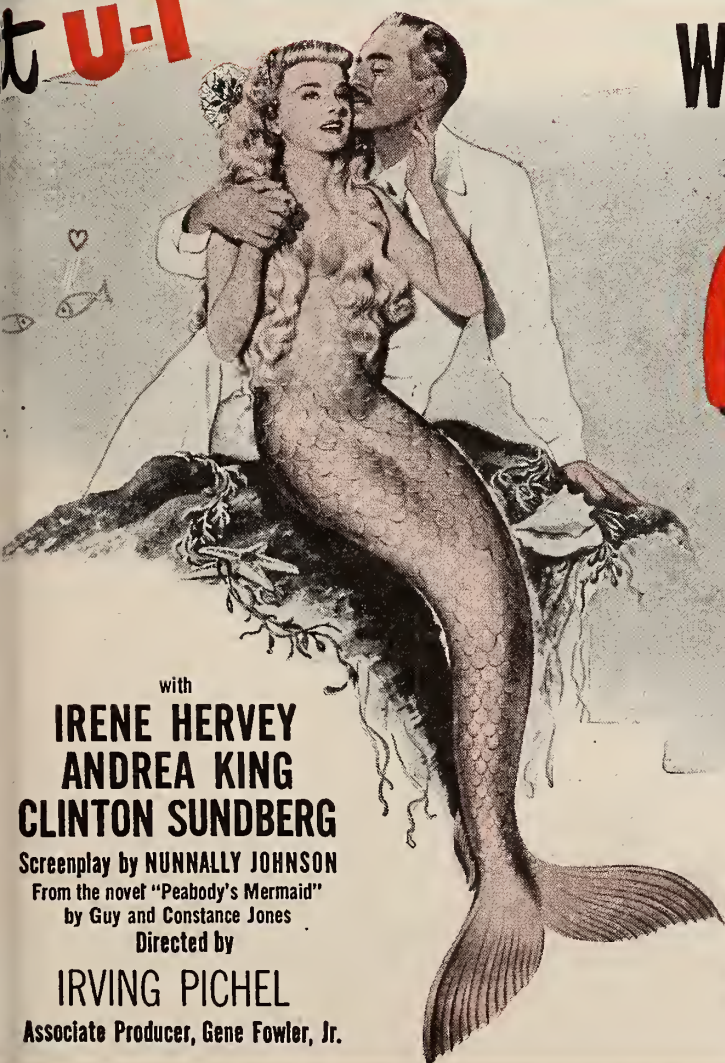
Premiere
at U-I

UNIVERSAL-INTERNATIONAL presents

WILLIAM POWELL • ANN BLYTH

in NUNNALLY JOHNSON'S

Mr. Peabody and the Mermaid



with
IRENE HERVEY
ANDREA KING
CLINTON SUNDBERG

Screenplay by NUNNALLY JOHNSON

From the novel "Peabody's Mermaid"
by Guy and Constance Jones

Directed by

IRVING PICHEL

Associate Producer, Gene Fowler, Jr.

Lots of publicity will be garnered in Atlantic City when the judges select the "Mermaid of the Year" as the wind-up of activities for the world premiere of "Mr. Peabody and the Mermaid" at the Hollywood Theatre on July 28. Full national network coverage is pre-selling this picture to millions of radio listeners via such programs as the CBS "House Party" show to find the "most unusual fish story"; Mutual's "Bride and Groom" program to select "the ideal honeymoon couple"; and Mutual's "Queen for a Day" program to crown a "Mermaid Bathing Queen."



Para.TrailerMayAid Public Relations

Paramount is working 400 prints of "Magic City," a nine-minute subject, without charge to exhibitors. Predominantly designed as a super-trailer of forthcoming Paramount product, treatment points up Hollywood at large as a hard-working community dedicating itself to a continued flow of better and better entertainment. This may be helpful in a public relations direction.

The reel is interesting, professionally expert and takes the audience behind the scenes of the studio in a quick once-over of what production is all about. Primary interest, no doubt will be among theatremen who play Paramount product. Those who do not cannot be expected to promote attractions which end up on a competitor's screen.

Stanley Shuford, Paramount's advertising manager, launched "Magic City" about four months ago in association with the studio and its trailer staff. TOA is understood to have evinced interest for its member theatres.—R. K.

UA's, Bid Selling

(Continued from page 1)

the first run, exclusive zone, all comparable theatres in each of the 11 major zones may buy a run on competitive bids, thus making it possible, for instance, for 11 theatres to play "Arch" day-and-date on the same availability.

For the second run, or theatres in the so-called exclusive sub-zone, two houses in each zone may buy a run so that 22 theatres could run a given film day-and-date on the identical basis. The application insofar as the second sub-zone is concerned, is identical, but additional runs in each of the sub-zones are to be licensed on a negotiation basis.


Theatres bidding for first-run will have a clearance of seven to 14 days over the next run, and so on down the line. In some instances, the seven-day clearance may be reduced to a prior run in order to meet booking situations.

"On Our Merry Way," UA's next release in this territory, may be sold along the same lines. The answer depends on results with "Arch of Triumph."

ITOA Party July 22

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Brandt will be hosts at their annual party for the New York Independent Theatre Owners Association at their summer home in Portchester, N. Y., on July 22.

OF COURSE



"TEXAS
BROOKLYN
and
HEAVEN"

sent from UA

"Red River"

(Continued from page 1)

Chase, provided the narrative base. The author and Charles Schnee furnished the script.

Important and essential, these elements, however, do not explain the extraordinary values of the picture. The explanation is in the superb ability with which Hawks has electrified the material, in the excellence of the performances he has extracted from his players, in the vitality of his directorial touches and in the authority and believability which he has captured. The story of "Red River" may never have happened in real life, but Hawks unqualifiedly makes it appear that it has.

IT is a simple enough yarn, getting under way before the Civil War. Wayne and Brennan decide to leave a wagon train heading for California for good grazing land. They select Texas where, years later, Wayne's vast cattle empire develops out of gunplay and hardship. On the way, they pick up the sole survivor of the ambushed wagon train. Wayne adopts the boy who returns at the close of the Civil War as Montgomery Clift. The climax begins to take form out of Wayne's desperate need to find a new market for his herd. Organizing a drive to Kansas City, he pushes his men ruthlessly through storm and strife toward the market place. Food becomes short and tempers frayed until open rebellion is in sight.

Clift opposes these iron-hand tactics, finally takes over with the men lining up on his side and succeeds in delivering the cattle to Abilene, thereby opening up the famed Chisholm Trail. But Wayne, the dictatorial herder, vows vengeance by swearing Clift's death. By this time, the latter has met Miss Dru and their romance is on. She attempts unsuccessfully to change Wayne's mind. When the peak of the climax arrives, Clift refuses to draw his gun and Wayne finds it impossible to kill Clift although he lands bullets at his feet and cascades them around Clift's head, shoulders and arms. Ultimately, the strong bond between both men, in many ways so similar, wins out. Their friendship is restored and the romance between the boy and girl sealed.

THIS story outline admittedly falters badly alongside that which is on the screen. The solidity and the naturalness of the principal players, the honest comedy contributed by Brennan, the memorable performance of John Ireland as a badman of the plains, the rugged authority of all supporting players, including Harry Carey, clear down the line to the lowliest of supernumeraries—these are among the many assets of which "Red River" may boast. There are many others, like the wagon train attacks, the cattle stampedes, the mounting mood of suspense and tenseness which endow this attraction with a raw-boned integrity too seldom noted out of Hollywood.

The credits list Arthur Rosson as co-director, Russell Harlan as cameraman, Dimitri Tiomkin at the musical helm and others. There is credit enough for all, listed and unlisted here.

Running time, 125 minutes and worth it. General audience classification. Release date, August 27.

RED KANN

"Night Has a Thousand Eyes"

(Paramount)

EDWARD G. ROBINSON is a present-day Nostradamus in a thoroughly engaging, oft-times ingenious, mystery that has the unique distinction of being able to deal with mortal man's (Robinson's) power to look into the tragedy-strewn future, without over-taxing our credulity. Or, at least, it is so interestingly and imaginatively done that most any audience will go along with it. Supernormal gifts are not required to foresee a healthy box-office future for "Night Has a Thousand Eyes."

Robinson does a crystal-ball act at the start, teamed with Virginia Bruce and Jerome Cowan. "Visions" cross his mental eye. Alarmed, he leaves the two and they marry. Twenty years pass, Cowan has become wealthy, having cashed in on Robinson's foresight in an oil project. Miss Bruce has passed away. The story picks up as Robinson predicts Cowan's death in an air crash, warns the latter's daughter Gail Russell, but too late. Then he sees Miss Russell's death ahead. It gets weird here as the chain of events leading to her demise comes true, as Robinson said they would. The police, particularly William Demarest, are baffled, take all precautions, with a few amusing bits thrown in. Miss Russell narrowly escapes death but Robinson is killed, just as he also predicted. There is no explanation for all of this but the picture plays around with the possibility that one does exist, however complex, and that suffices. John Farrow's direction apparently has gotten all out of the Cornell Woolrich novel which Barre Lyndon and Jonathat Latimer adapted. John Lund and Roman Bohnen are others in prominent support. Endre Bohem produced.

Running time, 80 minutes General audience classification. Release date, Oct. 22, 1948.

GENE ARNEEL

"Fighting Back"

(20th Century-Fox)

EXPECTED complications develop in the story of "Fighting Back" when a convict serves out his term in the army, is honorably discharged, returns home to his family, then is unjustly accused of stealing a bracelet from his employer's wife. This is a routine affair with trite dialogue, a cast which few audiences will recognize, artificial dramatics in an attempt to play on the emotions, and an ending which is obvious once the plot is introduced. However, "Daisy," one of the canine stars of the films, is given ample opportunity to display her talents, thus providing dog-lovers with some moments of entertainment.

It was produced by Sol M. Wurtzel and directed by Mal St. Clair, from a story and screenplay by John Stone. The cast includes Paul Langton and Jean Rogers as the returned army veteran and his wife, Gary Gray as their young son, and Joe Sawyer as a detective.

All KATO Officers Reelected at Meet

LOUISVILLE, July 11.—All officers of the Kentucky Association of Theatre Owners were reelected at a meeting held here at the weekend. Guthrie Crowe again is president, with Willard Gabhart, vice-president; C. R. Buechel, treasurer; Neil G. Borden, assistant treasurer and secretary, and Henry J. Stites as general counsel.

Newly-elected directors for year terms are Ned Greene, Pickle, Mrs. Gratia Locke, Kenneth Arnold, W. Bruce Aspley, J. Van Snook, Gene Lutes, L. O. Davis, W. T. Cain and Mrs. O. J. Minnix. Directors-at-large for two years are E. R. Orlstein and Lew Hensler, the latter resigning immediately with the announcement that he was resigning as Schine Circuit zone manager in Lexington to enter another business in Florida. Bob Cox, who will succeed Hensler in the Schine post, was named to the director's post.

A committee was set up to prepare for the KATO convention which will be held some time in October.

1st NCA-Fox Hearing

(Continued from page 1)

in an attempt to "feel its way" at conciliation. First joint meeting of the committee and the local 20th-Fox branch manager may be held immediately following the grievance committee meeting.

NCA's committee is comprised of E. L. Peaslee, Stillwater, Minn., chairman, and Henry Greene and Ted Mann, both of Minneapolis. Alternates are Jack Wright, New Prague; Don Buckley, Redwood Falls, and George Granstrom, St. Paul.

'Big Five'

(Continued from page 1)

defendants will be granted for the data demanded by the Government had not been agreed upon on Friday. The extent of the additional time to be allowed is not expected to be known definitely until the middle of the week.

The "Big Five," it was learned, will enter objections to some of the questions propounded by the Department of Justice. Just which questions they will take exception to is yet to be decided.

5th-Walnut Loses

(Continued from page 1)

Monroe E. Stein, that he could not grant the motions since the jury was properly charged before it entered into deliberations at the trial's end.

Fifth and Walnut's only recourse now is to file for an appeal from the jury verdict. If a motion for an appeal should be granted the case would be heard in U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals, probably in the fall.

Variety Club To Golf

CLEVELAND, July 11.—Friday, July 30, has been set as the date for the annual golf tournament of the local Variety Club, to be held at the Pine Ridge Country Club. Nat Wolf, Warner zone manager, is general chairman of a committee on arrangements consisting of Bert Lefkovich, tournament; Sam Abrams, prizes; Irwin Shenker, house; Ray Schmertz, television raffle; Lou Ratener, tickets, and J. Knox Strachan, publicity.

Studio Space Inquiry in UK

LONDON, July 11.—A British Board of Trade committee, regarded in many circles here as a thin end of the wedge of nationalization, has been formed to "consider whether or not to hold for the use of independent producers Government-owned or centrally-owned studios."

BOT president Harold Wilson, however, has repeated his assurances that he is primarily interested in assisting the independents and that the formation of the committee is the only course open to him. Several months ago he had indicated the government might subsidize independent producers but nothing has come of that "pledge," and the independents have been resentful.

Former Permanent Secretary for Colonies, Sir George Henry Gater, has been designated chairman of the committee. Other members are distinguished public officials also, but no film representative was named.

UK Default Probe

(Continued from page 1)

statistics for the British Board of Trade to prove that British pictures were available for quota defaulters last year.

Protesting that formation of the fact-finding unit is no threat, Sir Henry nevertheless admitted that if it finds that exhibitors are allegedly showing more imported films than the quota prescribes, it is possibly because exhibitors get them at a cheaper rate than that paid for British films.

The "facts" to be unearthed by the probes will be given to the British Film Council for use by the BOT, Sir Henry said, urging that this plan be supported in preference to the present practice whereby defaulters are not ascertained until the year's end, the latter method being impractical in his opinion. "We shall now know whether an exhibitor is going to default," he said.

Sir Henry pleaded that exhibitors should welcome the plan in view of the BFPA's intention to support exhibitors' claims to relief under the quota if it is ascertained that such claims are justifiable. He admitted the BOT was not consulted on the plan.

Sir Henry's announcement provoked an immediate blaze of anger among exhibitors. Typical reference to the fact-finding unit was "Rank's Gestapo." Cinematographers Exhibitors Association general secretary W. R. Fuller declared he will take the matter up forthwith with BOT president Harold Wilson.

Robert Clark Heads

(Continued from page 1)

here to be a loosening of the recent tight control of the company by Warner Brothers, which has a substantial interest in ABPC.

Meanwhile, C. J. Latta, formerly Warner Theatres zone manager in Albany, N. Y., who was transferred here by WB to be overseer of ABPC theatre operations in behalf of Warner, has been nominated by Max Milder to be his alternate director on the company's board during Milder's absence because of illness.

Annual ABPC stockholders' meeting will be held here on July 29.

See Little Gained In New Zealand Quiz

By R. A. USMAR

WELLINGTON, New Zealand, July 6 (By Airmail).—The New Zealand government's film inquiry has adjourned hearings after three weeks without having unearthed anything of moment. General opinion in the industry is that the inquiry did not uncover anything new and the government will find it difficult to effect any momentous improvements in the conduct of the business here.

A summary of the points raised and debated follow:

Monopoly of exhibition: There will probably be some legislation to limit the circuits to their present size, or at least licensing restrictions of limiting joint ownership between circuits and independents.

Control: It is practically certain that the control of exhibition will be required to be in the hands of New Zealand or British national licensees. A licensing tribunal most likely will be established to replace the present licensing officer, and no theatre will be permitted to be built or licenses transferred without this tribunal's consent.

Narrow-gauge film: 16mm is certain to come under the same rules and regulations as 35mm—meaning that exhibitors' licenses will be required for screening entertainment 16mm films.

Film supply: Probably the licensing tribunal and the Film Industry Board will have power to regulate the film supply in competitive areas in order to prevent over-buying and unfair restrictive trade practices.

Censorship: It was generally recognized that New Zealand's censorship is fair and reasonable.

Production: Encouragement—possibly financial—will be given to the production of newsreels and shorts, but there was no enthusiasm for locally-produced features unless under American or British auspices.

Douglas 'Tied Up'; No Report on Quota

WASHINGTON, July 11.—Secretary of State Marshall told a press conference here on Friday that the Department had not yet received any report from Ambassador Douglas in London on the British quota revision. The Department had instructed Douglas to express its "concern" and to make a full report on the situation.

Both industry and State Department officials have word, however, that Douglas has been too tied up with the more pressing negotiations on Berlin and the ECA agreement to put in the required time on the film situation.

Canadian Exports Drop

OTTAWA, July 11.—Canadian film exports dropped in the first five months of 1948 to \$1,714,000, compared with \$1,338,000 in the corresponding period last year.

Brazil Rule Attacked

(Continued from page 1)

by the distributors to withhold product from Brazil's theatres. In any event such action would stem not from local American distribution offices here, but rather from the Motion Picture Association of America in Washington.

Five Units Set Up To Aid Sanitarium

Five regional fund-raising committees have been organized among distributors and exhibitor organizations on behalf of the Will Rogers Memorial Hospital at Saranac Lake, N. Y., Robert Mochrie, chairman of the distributors' committee to aid the sanitarium, has announced here. Units were set up in New York, Philadelphia, Boston, Washington and Buffalo following meetings in those cities.

DuMont Asks Rise In Video Channels

WASHINGTON, July 11.—Allen B. DuMont Laboratories has suggested that the Federal Communications Commission make eight additional television channels available for commercial telecasts, boosting the present 12 to 20 by taking channels away from Government services and other present holders. The firm presented the broad outlines of the plan Friday before the commission's hearings on reallocation of the existing 12 channels. It will fill in the details on July 26, when hearings are to be resumed.

The hearings, which have been studying situations in specific localities, recessed late Friday. They will resume for general presentation in two weeks, at which time 20th Century-Fox of New England, Columbia and American Broadcasting Systems, Westinghouse, Philco and the Television Broadcasters Association will all testify in addition to DuMont.

Miller Heads First U-I Drive Winners

Winners of the first prizes in Universal-International's 26-week "Presidential Sales Drive" are Dave Miller, district manager for Albany, Buffalo and New Haven; manager Eugene Vogel of Albany, who led in the East; manager Carl Ost, winner in the South; Jack Bannan, Milwaukee manager, winner in the West, and salesman J. H. Parker, Boston, Eastern leader; Hugh Nesbitt, St. Louis, Southern winner, and Harry Blatt, Seattle, Western winner.

Ohio Meeting To Aid Will Rogers Hospital

CLEVELAND, July 11.—District and branch managers of Cleveland and Cincinnati will meet at luncheon in the Statler Hotel on Tuesday when Andy W. Smith, Jr., 20th-Fox general sales manager, and Charles Reagan, Paramount's general sales manager, will address them on the needs of the Will Rogers Memorial Hospital. Sam Shain, 20th-Fox public relations head, will accompany them to Cleveland.

'Illegals' Opens Wed.

World premiere of "The Illegals," documentary drama of the exodus of displaced Jews from Europe to Palestine, will be held at the Ambassador Theatre here Wednesday. Mayer-Burstein is distributing.

Reels, Video Set for Philadelphia Encore

PHILADELPHIA, July 11.—Television and newsreel crews began another week of "abnormal" operations here at the weekend with 30 newsreel cameras and the equipment of an 18-station video pool spotted in and around Convention Hall for the Democrats' national convention which will open officially tomorrow.

The newsreel men declare that they will conform to the same policy in effect at the Republican conclave last month, that is, issuing special clips of convention footage when news importance warrants it. Otherwise all material will be incorporated in the regular midweek and weekend editions.

J. R. Poppele, president of Television Broadcasters Association, and coordinator of the General Television Committee for pooled coverage, promises an improvement in the video reporting with errors made at the Republican meeting corrected. These will be of a technical nature, it was said.

Paramount Video

(Continued from page 1)

top news developments and these can be determined only when they occur, thus there will be no advance advertising. Employing its intermediate, or photographic, process, the theatre will hold the video news film until it can be worked into its regular program. Instead of interrupting the feature the material will be held until a scheduled short or newsreel clip can be eliminated. It is in this respect that Paramount claims an advantage over direct projection of television which must be shown simultaneously with the covered subject matter.

Eighteen Eastern television stations are in the convention pool. The amount Paramount has agreed to pay was not disclosed, but it is known the company offered to share cable costs during the Republican convention last month, its share being estimated then at over \$4,000.

Video Film Council Sets July 22 Meet

Second meeting of the National Television Film Council will be held here on July 22 at Sardi's for further discussion of a standard exhibition contract for films on video, a clearance bureau for exhibition video rights and a catalogue of television films. Melvin L. Gold is NTFC chairman.

Kieran to Int'l Tele-Film

John Kieran, sports writer and of radio's "Information Please," is one of the first "big names" in radio to be signed to an exclusive contract for a series of television film programs. He is to be featured in a weekly series titled "Kieran's Kaleidoscope," produced by International Tele-Film, New York, according to Paul F. Moss, president. Moss announced also that Budd Schulberg, author, has signed an exclusive contract to write and direct a series for the company.

Bids for Video Channel

WASHINGTON, July 11.—Twentieth Century-Fox's road to a Seattle television station has become a little rougher with the entry of Edward Lasker as applicant for a station there, bringing to six the number of individuals and firms seeking three available channels.

GRIFFITH THEATRES

P. O. BOX 1334

OKLAHOMA CITY 1, OKLA.

June 22, 1948

Mr. T. E. Laird
United Artists Corp.
1915 Elm Street
Dallas 1, Texas

Dear Ed:

We have just screened your attraction RED RIVER and I thought you might be interested in the reaction of those of us in the screening room.

I might explain that all of us had been built up very highly before seeing the picture, and quite often this leads to a mild letdown after viewing the attraction in question. Such, however, was certainly not the case with RED RIVER. Everyone of us was glued to his seat and the comments were marvelous.

The thing we liked particularly about RED RIVER is the fact that in its entire 127 minutes the action is paced so well that although there is climax after climax, there is no letdown between. In the opinion of all of us RED RIVER ranks with the finest motion pictures ever produced, regardless of type!

CW:ed

Cordially yours,

Cliff White, Jr.
Cliff White, Jr.

HOWARD HAWKS'

"RED RIVER"

ranks with the finest motion pictures ever
produced, regardless of type!

released thru UA

\$4,729,063 Loew's Profit For 40 Weeks

**Down from \$10,904,821;
Equals 92c Per Share**

Net profit of \$4,729,063 for the 40 weeks ended June 3, 1948, equivalent to 92 cents per common share, was reported for Loew's Inc., by Charles C. Moskowitz, vice-president and treasurer, yesterday. Earnings for the same period of 1947 were \$10,904,821, or \$2.12 per share.

Comparative earnings statement included a report on business for the 12 weeks ended June 3, 1948 with gross sales and operating revenues for that period estimated at \$43,356,000, compared with \$43,371,000 for the same period last year, a drop of only \$15,000.

Operating profit for the 40 weeks this year, including subsidiaries, after the subsidiaries' preferred dividends, (Continued on page 5)

20th, UP Set Up Video News Service

Television stations throughout the country will soon have at their disposal a film library covering important world-wide events as a result of a long-term agreement for joint establishment of a television news service signed yesterday by Spyros P. Skouras, 20th Century-Fox president, and Hugh Baillie, United Press president.

Under the agreement, Fox Movie-tone News will document UP dispatches with films which will be sent to video stations weekly after a basic (Continued on page 5)

N. Y. Para. Televises Williams-Jack Bout

The Paramount Theatre here, stepping up its television activities, sprung another surprise last night with a large-screen video showing of the Beau Jack-Ike Williams lightweight championship bout at Shibe Park, Philadelphia. The cabled images were picked up, processed on film and projected under the same system employed when the Louis-Walcott fight was telecast.

Paramount cleared rights through the promoters of the boxing contest, the television sponsor (Ballantine Beer) American Broadcasting System and its Philadelphia affiliate, WFIL- (Continued on page 5)

Weather Melts Brazil Order B'way Grosses Is Ruled Out

Very hot weather continued to melt business at Broadway first-runs generally over the weekend as New Yorkers crowded beaches and resorts. Grossing prospects for the week are only fair in consequence, except at Radio City Music Hall ("Emperor Waltz" and a Leonidoff stage presentation) and Loew's State ("Easter Parade") where returns at both continue to be of prosperity-plus proportions.

The Hall's bill is expected to bring in a spectacular \$146,500 in a fourth week on the basis of \$86,500 grossed Thursday through Sunday. A solid \$72,000 is due for the second week at the State.

Only other situations where business is holding up are the Capitol where the third week of "Fort Apache," plus singer Lena Horne on stage, is heading for an estimated \$83,000, and the Paramount where "A (Continued on page 4)

U.A. Will Not Extend Its Bidding Plan

Sale of forthcoming product on an experimental picture-to-picture basis under competitive bidding will be confined by United Artists strictly to the Chicago territory, it was said yesterday by a company spokesman.

The new Chicago sales policy was adopted by UA as a result of the Jackson Park decree.

Atlas Corp. Still Holds 327,812 Warrants in RKO

WASHINGTON, July 12.—Atlas Corporation's sale of 929,020 shares of RKO common stock to Howard Hughes on May 18 highlights otherwise routine trading by insiders in film companies' stocks, in the latest report of the Securities and Exchange Commission, covering the period from May 11 to June 10.

The report shows Atlas still holding warrants for 327,812 shares at the end of the period.

Columbia president Harry Cohn received a stock dividend of 3,473 shares of common on May 11, increasing his holdings to 142,395 shares. Jack Cohn received a dividend of 1,199 shares, to bring his personal holdings to 49,168. His trust accounts sold 2,000 shares and got a dividend of 538, for a net drop of 1,462 shares to 22,157.

A. Montague sold 200 shares, dropping his holdings to 7,827 shares plus (Continued on page 5)

RIO DE JANEIRO, July 10 (By Air-mail).—The Brazilian Ministry of Labor has found unconstitutional the Brazilian Price Control Board's regulation limiting distributors' film percentages to 40 per cent, according to government sources. Orders officially cancelling the order are expected momentarily by the industry.

When the cancellation announcement comes, it will put an end to considerable industry turmoil. Opposition to the order broke out in many quarters, and was particularly strong from American distributor representatives here. On the other hand, some exhibitors here supported the order since it pointed to larger profits for theatres playing foreign pictures.

The order also fixed the price of theatre admissions, and under it the highest admission price throughout the country was to be the equivalent of 30 cents. Local price commissions were (Continued on page 5)

Silverman to Back Perrin Production

CHICAGO, July 12.—Eddie Silverman, Essaness Theatres president, will finance with producer Nat Perrin, the independent production of the life story of Van and Schenk. Silverman will remain in Chicago with filming scheduled to roll shortly. No distribution plans have been set as yet, it is reported.

ERP Program Applies Only To New Films

**Cost Guarantees Will
Not Cover Old Product**

WASHINGTON, July 12. — The Economic Cooperation Administration has finally set some of the rules and regulations it will use in administering the Economic Recovery Program's investment guaranty program, and three points stand out for the film industry:

1.—Only new film activities or expansion of enterprises already going on will be eligible. Films already abroad or scheduled to go will presumably not be covered.

2.—The programs must be approved by the foreign governments, as well as by the ECA. One of the specific items which applicants must submit is "either evidence of approval by the foreign country of the investment as furthering the joint program for European recovery, or a statement of (Continued on page 5)

Lippert, Redwood Circuits Merged

MEDFORD, Ore., July 12.—Amalgamation of the Redwood Circuit of 61 houses and the Robert L. Lippert Theatres into the Affiliated Theatre Service Circuit marked the visit here of Lippert. Serving with the expanded circuit is George Mann, owner and operator of Redwood Theatres.

Meeting with Lippert and Mann here were J. Earl Hinning, Charles J. Maestri, L. L. Lamb, F. L. Woods, James Chapman, Dan Pavich, Harry Spaulding, Joseph Manniachi, Dave (Continued on page 5)

RKO Board Session Still on at Coast

HOLLYWOOD, July 12.—Meeting of the RKO board of directors, which convened yesterday and was resumed this morning at an undisclosed place, was still in session late today in an effort to wind up its business quickly.

Meanwhile, dismissal of dispensable personnel was continuing at the studio with some being given to understand that their re-employment is likely when the new production program and policy is decided upon and implemented. It is believed here that RKO production activity will come to a virtual halt when three films now before the cameras are completed.

Theatre Activity Spurts in Nation

Activity in new theatre construction is accelerating in several sections of the country, according to *MOTION PICTURE DAILY* field correspondents who report that additional theatres are in planning stages in California, Arkansas and Florida, besides those already reported.

In San Francisco, a \$100,000 house to seat 750 is underway, Kenneth Wright, head of Fruit Ridge Manor Theatre Corp., announces, while A. D. Hamlin, Jr., is completing plans for an outdoor theatre on the outskirts of San Francisco near Colma. A \$35,000 drive-in is to be built in Van Nuys by Paul Glick, and Charles Holtz has scheduled the opening of a new Sacramento theatre for October.

Bernstein Theatres has announced plans for two theatres, a 900-seater in Little River and an 800-car drive-in, both in Florida. Bob Bernstein, vice-president of the circuit, will be in charge of both projects.

West Memphis, Arkansas, seems destined to become a theatre center overnight with three theatres projected for that city. M. A. Lightman and Associates, Herbert Kohn and Ed Sapinsley have disclosed the purchase of the Crittenden from J. Jackson Rhodes at a cost of approximately \$100,000 and will start extensive repairs on the 750-seat house as soon as they take possession on August 1. The house will not be a part of Malco Theatres. In addition, plans are being drawn for a new theatre in West Memphis to be operated by Lightman in addition to the Crittenden. Two weeks previously, W. L. Moxley, veteran theatre operator of Blytheville, Ark., announced plans for construction of a 1,000-seat house in West Memphis to be built at a cost of \$250,000.

New theatres opened recently in the New Orleans territory include the Beard in Leakesville, Miss., and the Wayne in Melvin, Ala., the latter operated by Phil Murphy who also has theatres in Quitman, Miss.

NCA Grievance Unit Studying Four Cases

MINNEAPOLIS, July 12.—Four complaints against 20th Century-Fox were heard today at the first meeting of North Central Allied's grievance committee, and all cases were taken under advisement for disposition at a committee meeting scheduled for next Monday.

The nature of the grievances and the names of complainants were not disclosed, the committee having decided upon secrecy to avoid possible embarrassment to the theatre owners, according to Stanley Kane, NCA executive secretary and counsel for the grievance board.

First Essaness Drive-In

CHICAGO, July 12.—Construction of an outdoor theatre, to be called the Starlight, first to be operated by the Essaness circuit, was started here last week. It will cost \$500,000, have facilities for 1,200 cars and is expected to be in operation by mid-September.

Personal Mention

B. G. KRANZE, Film Classics sales vice-president, left here yesterday for Cleveland and Pittsburgh. He is due back here tomorrow.

DUKE HICKEY, field coordinator of the Motion Picture Association of America's community relations division, left New York yesterday for Boston on the first lap of a tour of the country.

JULES K. CHAPMAN, Film Classics assistant sales manager, left here over the weekend for a tour of the Portland, Ore., territory.

WILLIAM DEMELLO, manager of Western Electric (Caribbean), is here from his headquarters in Bogota, Colombia.

F. W. HITE of the M-G-M studio will leave Hollywood Friday for New York.

JAMES B. WILLIAMS of M-G-M studios is due here next Monday en route to England.

WILLIAM R. FERGUSON, M-G-M exploitation head, returned to New York yesterday from Chicago.

WILLIAM F. RODGERS, M-G-M distribution vice-president, has returned to New York from Buffalo.

RUDY BERGER, M-G-M Southern sales manager, left Washington yesterday for Jacksonville, Fla.

LEO HANDEL, head of M-G-M's research bureau, has left here for the Coast.

JOHN CAMPBELL, International Projector Corp. production manager, is vacationing in DuBois, Wyo.

MORTON LANE of the Paramount home office legal staff and **MRS. LANE** have become parents of their second child, **RICHARD PAUL**, born Saturday at Doctors Hospital here.

JAMES DIXON has resigned as assistant manager of the Hippodrome Theatre, Baltimore, to become manager of the Elkridge Drive-In in that city.

TENNY WRIGHT, manager of Warners' Burbank studio, has returned here from England. He will fly to the Coast today.

MESSMORE KENDALL, president of the Capitol Theatre, New York, will return here tomorrow from London and Paris on the *SS Queen Elizabeth*.

F. J. A. MCCARTHY, Universal-International Southern and Canadian sales manager, will leave New York today for Dallas.

LOUIS T. STONE of the Ascap legal department will fly to Scotland on Saturday from New York.

FRED QUIMBY, M-G-M short subject production head, will leave the Coast Friday for New York.

SIDNEY A. FRANKLIN, M-G-M producer, will leave Hollywood on Sunday for New York en route to Paris.

MICHAEL SOKOL, Warner general manager in Mexico, has returned to Mexico City from the Coast.

Must Submit Records In Percentage Action

Federal Judge John C. Knox of United States District Court for New York, acting in percentage actions brought by Loew's and RKO, against the Eisenberg and Cohen Theatres, has ordered the circuit to produce for inspection all of its books and records. The decision applies specifically to all entries of flat rental and percentage engagements.

Goldwyn Names Agency

Samuel Goldwyn has appointed Monroe Greenthal Co. advertising agency for his "A Song Is Born." Conferences on a campaign between Goldwyn, William Hebert and Lynn Farnol, culminating in the choice of the agency have terminated and Farnol planned for Denver for a two-week vacation before returning here to his post as Eastern advertising-publicity director for the producer.

MPA To Survey Drive-ins

Motion Picture Association of America has begun a survey of drive-in theatres around the country, aimed at obtaining late information concerning the number and types of operation, it was disclosed here yesterday.

Trop to Produce And Distribute

Jack Trop has opened headquarters here for his new J. D. Trop Films, the officers of which are Trop as president, Barend Broekman, vice-president, and Marcel Broekman, secretary-treasurer. Barend and Broekman produced a number of pictures abroad up to World War II.

Broekman has left for a three-month survey of production and distribution setups, his first stop being Amsterdam, where he will remain until his Cinetone Studios, seized by the Nazis in 1940, are returned to him. Later he will go to Paris, Rome, Brussels and other capitals to study bi-lingual production in behalf of Trop Films. Trop says that Hollywood and New York studios will be used to produce pictures in this country.

Ainsworth and Smith To Attend ATOI Meet

INDIANAPOLIS, July 12.—William Ainsworth, president of national Allied, and A. W. Smith, Jr., general sales manager of 20th Century-Fox, will be guests at the mid-summer meeting of the Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana, July 26-28, at French Lick.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
BING CROSBY **JOAN FONTAINE**
in **"THE EMPEROR WALTZ"**
Color by **TECHNICOLOR**
A Paramount Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

Paramount presents
JEAN ARTHUR
MARLENE DIETRICH
JOHN LUND
in **"A FOREIGN AFFAIR"**
Color by **TECHNICOLOR**
MIDNIGHT FEATS
TIMES SQUARE

JOHN FORD'S MASTERPIECE
"FORT APACHE"
IN PERSON **LENA HORNE**
Special! **PAUL WINCHELL**
Extra! **SKINNAY ENNIS**
and his ORCH.
COOL **CAPITOL** B'way & 51st St.

Walt Disney's
"MELODY TIME"
Color by **TECHNICOLOR!**
Released thru RKO Radio Pictures
greatest star-and-song-show!
ASTOR
B'WAY & 45th ST

Cast of 10,000 in
Cecil B. DeMille's
"THE CRUSADES"
with Loretta Young • Henry Wilcoxon
A PARAMOUNT RELEASE
Scientifically Aired Conditioned
RIVOLI
B'way & 49th St. 9:30 A.M.
Doors Open

JACK CARSON • PAIGE DON
DeFORE and DAY
in **"ROMANCE ON THE HIGH SEAS"**
Color by **TECHNICOLOR**
A MICHAEL CURTIZ PRODUCTION
WARNER BROS.
STRAND
OPENS 9:30 AM LATE FILM AT MIDNIGHT
LATE STAGE SHOW 10:15 PM • B'WAY AT 47th

OLD LOS ANGELES
Starring
William Elliott • John Carroll
Catherine McLeod
Joseph Schildkraut
A Republic Picture
NOW PLAYING!
Brandt's Cool **GOTHAM** B'way & 47th St.

"DOUBLE INDEMNITY" was a Magnificent Moneymaker!

NOW...a Powerful DICK POWELL...

a Great LIZABETH SCOTT...a story that points a

finger at every man with a conscience...

at every woman with a man...

AT EVERY INDUSTRYTE WITH A THEATRE!

with **JANE WYATT** and
Raymond Burr • Byron Barr • John Litel
Ann Doran • Jimmy Hunt • Selmer Jackson
Based on the Novel "The Pitfall" by Jay Coster
Screenplay by Karl Korb
Directed by **ANNE DE TUSS**
Produced by **SAMUEL BLUMHOFF**

Regal Films Presents

Dick *Lizabeth*
POWELL ★ SCOTT

in
"PITFALL"

sure-fire thru UA!

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY correspondents. Estimates omit admission tax.

CINCINNATI

Most grosses are several notches over the preceding week, with overall averages the best in many months, despite continuance of excessively hot weather and increased competition from outdoor attractions. Estimated receipts for the week ending July 13:

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—KEITH'S (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-65c-75c) 3rd week. Gross: \$6,000. (Average: \$7,500)
FLOWING GOLD (WB reissue)—RKO GRAND (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Dualled with **GOD'S COUNTRY AND THE WOMAN** (WB reissue). Gross: \$8,500. (Average: \$8,600)
FOUR FACES WEST (UA)—RKO PALACE (2,700) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: \$15,000. (Average: \$15,000)
MR. BLANDINGS BUILDS HIS DREAM HOUSE (SRO)—RKO LYRIC (1,400) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 4 days, 3rd week, on a moveover from the Shubert, following an initial week at the Albee.
GHOST OF FRANKENSTEIN (U-I reissue)—RKO LYRIC (1,400) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 3 days. Dualled with **SON OF DRACULA** (U-I reissue). Combined gross: \$6,500. (Average: 7 days: \$5,000)
ON AN ISLAND WITH YOU (M-G-M)—RKO CAPITOL (2,000) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: \$10,500. (Average: \$10,000)
UP IN CENTRAL PARK (U-I)—RKO ALBEE (3,300) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: \$16,500. (Average: \$15,000)

BALTIMORE

About half of local first-run theatres are showing holdovers and, as a result, business is just about average. Among newcomers, "Easter Parade" is drawing capacity crowds. Week-end business was somewhat off, due to clear weather and outdoor amusements. Estimated receipts for the week ending July 15:

ANTOINE AND ANTOINETTE (Siritsky Int'l)—LITTLE (328) (29c-37c-56c). Gross: \$2,750. (Average: \$3,000)
EASTER PARADE (M-G-M)—CENTURY (3,000) (29c-37c-45c-54c, and 56c weekends). Gross: \$21,500. (Average: \$14,500)
ON AN ISLAND WITH YOU (M-G-M)—VALENCIA (1,466) (29c-37c-45c-54c, and 56c weekends) 2nd week. Gross: \$5,750. (Average: \$5,000)
THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—TOWN (1,450) (first time here at popular prices: 29c-37c-56c) 3rd week. Gross: \$8,750. (Average: \$11,000)
THE DUDE GOES WEST (Allied Artists)—MAYFAIR (1,000) (21c-29c-54c) 2nd week. Gross: \$4,000. (Average: \$4,500)
THE EMPEROR WALTZ (Para.)—STANLEY (3,280) (29c-37c-50c-58c) 2nd week. Gross: \$13,000. (Average: \$14,500)
THE FULLER BRUSH MAN (Col.)—HIPPODROME (2,205) (29c-37c-50c-58c) 2nd week. With a stage show. Gross: \$17,500. (Average: \$17,500)
STREET WITH NO NAME (20th-Fox)—NEW (1,800) (29c-40c-50c-58c). Gross: \$12,000. (Average: \$11,750)
UP IN CENTRAL PARK (U-I)—KEITH'S (2,406) (25c-37c-44c-54c, and 56c weekends). Gross: \$10,750. (Average: \$12,000)

TORONTO

In spite of heat and the absence of many patrons from the city, there were two holdovers, one for a third week, at Famous Players first-run houses in Toronto, both being in the lighter vein. Most business was around average. Estimated receipts for the week ending July 15:

ANNA KARENINA (20th-Fox)—EGLIN-

Reviews

"Train to Alcatraz"

(Republic)

FROM simple material Republic has fashioned a compact melodrama sufficiently endowed with suspense even though the ultimate outcome of the plot is never too much in doubt. While a good deal of the story incidents are pat and lacking in conviction, the film sustains interest more than well, generally speaking.

A sort of "Last Mile" on rails, the action is confined primarily to a prison car hauling an assorted bunch of escape-minded criminals across the country to Alcatraz. The drama in which these desperate men are involved is intensified by confining the area of activity and simplifying the plot structure as much as possible.

Of the men, only one (William Phipps) does not deserve his fate. He is a victim of circumstances who at the end finds justice and love (with Janet Martin). An abortive escape of the convicts is pictured with plenty of excitement and blood-curdling violence. The love note was virtually dragged into the story, and while it may add to the happiness of Phipps, it seems strangely out of place. Lou Brock was associate producer, and Philip Ford applied hard-fisted direction to the Gerald Geraghty screenplay. Donald Barry, Roy Barcroft, Juan Storey, Jane Darwell, Milburn Stone and Ralph Dunn are others importantly placed in the cast.

Running time, 60 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, June 28. P.E.L.

"Portrait of Innocence" (Nous Les Gosses)

(Siritsky International—French with English subtitles)

THIS IS an exceptional and very fine film about children and it deserves to be treated as top A product by exhibitors catering to art audiences. The picture creates a moving and altogether charming whole from what appears on the surface to be a patchwork of very simple incidents. "Portrait of Innocence" makes the most out of the appeal of the children in its story. It is full of humor and the kind of realism that will endear it to any family audience. And, without being tumultuous, there is action a-plenty, with some romance thrown in to boot. Louis Daquin directed this Pathe film. Louise Carletti, Gilbert Gil and Coedel are starred.

Running time, 90 minutes. General audience classification. Current release.

"They Are Not Angels" (Battalion Du Ciel)

(Siritsky International—French with English subtitles)

PRODUCED by Pathe in France, with the co-operation of the British and French governments and the Royal Air Force, "They Are Not Angels" is one of the few pictures of the war which has reached the screen without any artificial preachments or philosophizing, or embarrassing heroics. Despite its more than two hours' running time, its dialogue, situations and plot development have been so skillfully woven together, plus the excellent quality of the acting by all players, that the audience will not be aware of the time it takes to tell the story.

Opening at a training camp in England where a battalion of French paratroopers await D-Day, the picture shows their jump into France, their operations behind the enemy lines, and, finally, in an impressive scene, the three remaining members of the unit. Starring Pierre Blanchard and Raymond Bussieres, it was directed by Alexandre Esway, from a scenario and dialogue written by Joseph Kessel.

Running time, 121 minutes. General audience classification. Current release.

TON (1,086) (20c-36c-50c-66c) 6 days. Gross: \$6,400. (Average: \$6,900)

ANNA KARENINA (20th-Fox)—TIVOLI (1,434) (20c-36c-50c-66c) 6 days. Gross: \$7,700. (Average: \$8,200)

THE FULLER BRUSH MAN (Col.)—SHEA'S (2,480) (20c-36c-50c-66c-90c) 6 days, 3rd week. Gross: \$14,100. (Average: \$14,700)

FURY AT FURNACE CREEK (20th-Fox)—NORTOWN (959) (20c-42c-60c) 6 days. Gross: \$4,500. (Average: \$5,500)

FURY AT FURNACE CREEK (20th-Fox)—VICTORIA (1,240) (20c-36c-42c-60c) 6 days. Gross: \$4,800. (Average: \$5,800)

ON AN ISLAND WITH YOU (M-G-M)—LOEW'S (2,074) (20c-36c-50c-66c-78c) 6 days. Gross: \$15,200. (Average: \$14,200)

ROMANCE ON THE HIGH SEAS (WB)—IMPERIAL (3,343) (20c-36c-50c-66c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: \$14,100. (Average: \$14,600)

RUTHLESS (EL)—DANFORTH (1,400) (20c-36c-50c-60c) 6 days. Gross: \$6,000. (Average: \$6,500)

RUTHLESS (EL)—FAIRLAWN (1,195) (20c-36c-50c-55c) 6 days. Gross: \$5,000. (Average: \$5,500)

SUMMER HOLIDAY (M-G-M)—UP-TOWN (2,761) (20c-36c-50c-66c-90c) 6 days. Gross: \$10,600. (Average: \$10,600)

ATLANTA

Business this week is about average. Weather is fair and cool. Estimated receipts for the week ending July 14:

ANNA KARENINA (20th-Fox)—PARAMOUNT (2,446) (12c-50c). Gross: \$6,000. (Average: \$5,800)

ANOTHER PART OF THE FOREST (U-I)—ROXY (2,446) (12c-50c). Gross: \$5,900. (Average: \$5,800)

THE EMPEROR WALTZ (Para.)—FOX (2nd week). Gross: \$14,500. (Average: \$15,000)

ON OUR MERRY WAY (UA)—LOEW'S GRAND (2,446) (12c-60c). Gross: \$15,000. (Average: \$15,000)

'1A' Local Celebrates

NEW ORLEANS, July 12.—Richard F. Walsh, president of IATSE, and William P. Raoul, general secretary-treasurer, were here from New York to celebrate the 35th anniversary of IATSE Local No. 293 at the Roosevelt Hotel last weekend. A highlight of the affair was the presentation of a gold membership card to N. L. Carter, assistant general manager of Paramount-Richards Theatres by A. S. Johnstone, international representative and president of Local No. 293.

Crescent Fighting Tax

ATLANTA, July 12.—Circuit Judge Newton B. Powell has upheld the right of the city of Decatur, Ala., to levy an amusement tax. Crescent Amusement Co. of Nashville, owner of theatres there, has appealed the ruling to the Alabama Supreme Court.

Production Drops Again, Down to 31

HOLLYWOOD, July 12.—The production index again stood unimpressive at 31, dipping slightly from last week's 34. Four films were started, while seven were completed.

Shooting started on "Inner Sanctum" (M.R.S. Pictures), Film Classics; "Interference," RKO Radio; "The Fan," 20th Century-Fox; "Gay Amigo" (Philip N. Krasne), United Artists. Shooting was finished on "Wings Westward," Columbia; "Words and Music," Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer; "The Denver Kid," Republic; "Indian Scout" (Edward Small), United Artists; "The O'Flynn" (Fairbanks), Universal-International, and "The Girl from Jones Beach" and "The Younger Brothers," Warner.

'Walls of Jericho' Rated 'B' by Legion

Twentieth Century-Fox's "The Walls of Jericho" and Discina International's "Blind Desire" (French) have been given "B" ratings by the National Legion of Decency. Monogram's "Back Trail" and Eagle-Lion's "The Spiritualist" were rated A-I and Columbia's "Coroner Creek," Paramount's "So Evil My Love" and United Artists' "Texas, Brooklyn and Heaven" were classified A-II.

Broadway Grosses

(Continued from page 1)

Foreign Affair" and a stage bill headed by Jo Stafford looks like \$82,000 in a second week, despite a mild weekend.

Unimpressive debuts were made by four new films, with first-week grosses expected as follows: "Canon City," Criterion, \$37,000; "Raw Deal," Victoria, \$19,000; "Fury at Furnace Creek," Globe, \$14,000, and "Old Los Angeles," Gotham, \$7,000; "Mickey," will take over at the Gotham on Saturday.

"Give My Regards to Broadway," plus an ice show on stage, is fair in its third and final week at the Roxy where \$74,000 is expected; "Street with No Name" will move in tomorrow. "Romance on the High Seas," together with Bob Crosby's band on stage, is so-so at the Strand, a third and final week due for \$30,000; "Key Largo" will be the replacement on Friday.

A very modest \$15,000 for a seventh week is expected for "Melody Time" at the Astor where "The Babe Ruth Story" will open on July 26. At the Winter Garden, "Man-Eater of Kumamon" is mild in its second week, with \$16,000 expected. "Time of Your Life" is doing modestly in its seventh week at the Mayfair where \$14,500 is due. "The Crusaders" re-issue has slumped in its second week at the Rivoli, with a flimsy \$17,000 due.

"The Illegals" will have its premiere tomorrow at the Ambassador.

'Glory' Opens July 23

World premiere of "Beyond Glory," Alan Ladd-Donna Reed picture, will be staged by Paramount in Radio City Theatre in Minneapolis on July 23, the opening day of that city's annual Aquatennial. Ladd will visit Minneapolis to attend a press luncheon prior to the opening.

U.S. Films Encounter E. Indies Competition

WASHINGTON, July 12.—The Commerce Department discounts reports that the Netherlands East Indies may soon require regular exhibition of European films in all theatres.

In a report issue by film chief Nathan D. Golden, the department says that no official action has been taken and it appears likely that the matter will be held in abeyance in view of the strong position of U. S. distributors in the Netherlands Indies.

The report does note increasing competition for U. S. films, chiefly from the British, but also from French, Chinese, Egyptian, Indian, Swiss and native offerings. Only 39 per cent of the features reviewed during the last six months of 1947 were American, compared with 48 per cent in the first six months. British films now account for 30 per cent of the total, the report states.

Cites Italian Films' Advances In Europe

Italian-made pictures are receiving ever-increasing acceptance in all parts of Western Europe and already are offering strong competition for films made elsewhere in Europe, reports New York film attorney S. R. Kunkis who has returned here from a 10-week survey of production, distribution and exhibition in England, France, Italy, Denmark and Sweden.

Kunkis said French and English films particularly trail Italian pictures in popularity in many European countries, whereas U. S. films seem able to hold their own against all competitors.

Film Rights Acquires 10 New Foreign Films

Ten new French, Italian and Swedish films will be distributed in the U. S. by Film Rights International and subsidiaries in 1948-49, it has been announced here by Irvin Shapiro, general manager. The films are: "Symphonie Pastorale," "Gates of the Night," "Rebirth," "The Good Life," "Macadam," "Les Miserables," "The Eternal City," "Naked Paris," "The House of the Hanged Man" and "Anna Lans."

In addition, the company will also reissue "Kiss of Fire" and "The Human Beast."

Bert Reisman to RKO Post in So. Africa

Bert Reisman has been promoted from manager of the RKO Radio office in Venezuela to company representative in the Union of South Africa with headquarters in Johannesburg. He succeeds Louis Lioni, who will take charge of RKO Radio office in Holland, with headquarters in Amsterdam.

Herb E. Fletcher will succeed Reisman in Venezuela. He formerly was a member of the Warner foreign department.

New Exhibitor Service

Lasker-Schwartz, buying and booking office for foreign films, has inaugurated a new service providing subscriber exhibitors with advertising and promotional data on foreign productions.

Nasser Embracing New Trailer Idea

Hollywood, July 12.—James Nasser says he has a new trailer idea in which the public attending a series of "sneak" previews on "An Innocent Affair" will be asked their off-the-cuff reactions before camera setups in theatre lobbies here, in San Jose, Pomona and Fresno. While he does not say positively, he indicates the footage will comprise the final trailer on his film.

ERP Program

(Continued from page 1)

the channel through which negotiations are being or will be conducted" to obtain such approval.

3.—ECA will accept Congressional guidance and make the guaranty—as far as information media are concerned—apply to the convertibility of foreign currencies earned by the sale or exhibition of films only "to the extent of the dollar cost of production wholly attributable to these specific products."

Cover Print Cost, Shipping

If a film is distributed in the U. S. and then submitted for distribution abroad under the guaranty provision, convertibility will be guaranteed only for the cost of the actual prints sent overseas, plus the cost of getting them there and showing them.

This was the language which the conference committee on the original bill wrote into its conference report, and the ECA statement yesterday said that applications for guaranties from producers and distributors of informational media will "be considered by the administrator in the light of this clearly expressed Congressional intention."

ERP Funds Cut by \$5,000,000

The original ERP legislation authorized \$15,000,000 for guaranteeing investments in enterprises producing or distributing informational media during the first year of the program, from April 3, 1948. The appropriations committees, however, only made \$10,000,000 available. The film industry had indicated it hoped to get over \$4,000,000 from this program.

ECA did not make known how the \$10,000,000 would be broken down among film firms, book publishers, newspapers and magazines. The program will become effective tomorrow.

ECA said recipients of guaranties would pay annually in advance a fee of one per cent of the amount of the guaranty unless waived by the ECA administrator.

Brazil Order

(Continued from page 1)

instructed to fix prices in their districts on the basis of "points" of credit established for theatre facilities such as seating, quality of sound and projection, exit conveniences. In this way the houses would be classified in five categories of admission.

Were the regulations to become operative, the revision of all distribution contracts closed after January 1, 1947, would be required, with flat and percentage rentals affected equally.

20th-Fox, UP

(Continued from page 1)

film library is sent to all stations subscribing to the service. The service will provide daily coverage, according to Leroy Keller, UP general sales manager.

Participating in the negotiations, in addition to Skouras and Baillie were Peter Levathes, 20th-Fox director of television, Keller, Irving B. Kahn of 20th-Fox's television department and Harry McIntyre and Joseph Fawcett, attorneys for 20th-Fox and UP respectively.

Irving B. Kahn Promoted to 20th-Fox Television Post

Irving B. Kahn, 20th Century-Fox radio manager, has been promoted to an executive position in the company's television department it was announced yesterday by Spyros P. Skouras, president. Kahn will work on television programming. A successor to Kahn as radio manager will be named shortly.

N.Y. Para. Televises

(Continued from page 1)

TV, operated by the Philadelphia Inquirer. Under the arrangement, the Paramount withheld advertising of the show until six P.M. yesterday, about four hours before fight time.

Prior to the fight cast, the theatre showed scenes of Senator Barkley's speech at the Democratic convention. The Broadway house has the rights to the convention telecast.

Loew Profit

(Continued from page 1)

totalled \$13,701,312, against \$24,166,052 in 1947. Reserve for contingencies was listed at \$1,600,000, compared with \$2,500,000 for 1947, and reserve for depreciation this year was put at \$3,419,404, against \$3,020,638. The 1948 40-week net before taxes was \$8,681,908, against \$18,645,414 for 1947.

Lippert, Redwood

(Continued from page 1)

Peterson, Harry Langman, Matt Freed.

Plans of Screen Guild Productions to make a series of outdoor films in the Rogue River Valley of Oregon were disclosed by Lippert at the meeting. The first, to go into work in early August, will be "The Last Wild Horses."

Atlas Corp.

(Continued from page 1)

bought 100 shares, to bring his total holdings to 2,700, while 20th Century-Fox's Murray Silverstone gave 200 shares to his wife, dropping his personal holdings to 1,100 shares, plus options for 1,200 more.

Daniel M. Sheaffer of Universal sold 400 shares in two transactions, leaving him with 12,807. Jack L. Warner gave 3,000 shares of Warner \$5 common to the United Jewish Welfare in three separate gifts. He now holds 420,000 shares of common, and his trust accounts hold 21,500 more.

Albert W. Lind bought 200 shares of Associated Motion Picture Industries capital stock, to increase his holdings to 400 shares, while L. Boyd Hatch acquired warrants for 1,500 shares of Atlas common. He now holds 4,840 shares and warrants for 26,031.

Exhibitors to Attend Equipment Meeting

CHICAGO, July 12.—Theatre owners, purchasing agents, theatre supply dealers and equipment manufacturers will assemble at the Jefferson Hotel in St. Louis, on September 27-30 for a meeting and equipment show. Theatre owners will have an all-day session on September 27, including a luncheon, banquet and visit to the exhibits of the trade show of the Theatre Equipment and Supply Manufacturers Association. It is understood that Ted Gamble will address this group.

The manufacturers association and the Theatre Supply Dealers Association will convene on September 27-30. There will be a get-together luncheon on September 28, a special party and luncheon for ladies accompanying the delegates on September 29, and cocktail party and banquet September 29.

The equipment show will be a display for the conventional type theatre as well as theatre television, drive-in theatre equipment and beverage dispensing equipment.

Now They're 2-Reelers

HOLLYWOOD, July 12. — Western location footage in 16mm., collected over the past seven years, has been edited into three two-reelers by Harry Sherman and sold to Edwin Stovall, representing Calcamera, Ltd., of London. The two-reelers have had sound and narration added and will be exhibited in the British Empire as scenic.

Fabian in UJA Talk

Si Fabian will address Loew executives at the home office at noon tomorrow in his capacity as Greater New York amusement division chairman of the United Jewish Appeal.

Reade Meeting Today

Monthly meeting of district and city managers of the Walter Reade Theatres will take place today at Reade's Monte Carlo Beach Club, at Asbury Park, N. J.

Shapiro's Father-in-Law

Funeral services were held here last Friday for Harry Gemson, 67, father-in-law of Robert K. Shapiro, manager of the New York Paramount Theatre.

CBS Promotes Flynn

William J. Flynn has been promoted from assistant comptroller to assistant treasurer of Columbia Broadcasting.

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Today's CEA Rank Meeting Seen Crucial

Conclusions May Set a Pattern for the Future

By PETER BURNUP

LONDON, July 13.—At this reporting the country's motion picture industry stands at the brink of days potentially more momentous than it hitherto has known.

Today, the quota relief sub-committee of the Films Council met to consider the 2,600 exhibitor applications for relief under the Quota Act. Shortly, the full council will convene to pass judgment on the applications. It is to be assumed that the council's deliberations will be largely conditioned by proceedings at the Cinematograph Exhibitors' Association's general council session tomorrow, at which J. Arthur Rank will convey his views on the quota situation and his plans for ensuring a good return for his product.

Showmen are in no mood to accept
(Continued on page 3)

More US Films for UK Independents

LONDON, July 13.—With much relief British exhibitors learn of the developing revision of distribution plans of American film companies which will give independents more product of top calibre.

M-G-M has decided to offer at least one major feature per month direct to independents. 20th Century-Fox will have a line-up of six pictures which will be so offered, while Paramount and RKO Radio have similar plans.

Subcommittees Will Study UK Defaults

London, July 13.—Although no official statement was forthcoming following today's Board of Trade Film Council quota subcommittee meeting called to consider the 2,600 exhibitor quota default applications, it is understood a decision was made to form a number of subcommittees conversant with the various geographic conditions and other delicate considerations involved.

Theatre Video Scheduling A New Program Problem

FCC Weighs Para. Decision for Video

WASHINGTON, July 13.—The Federal Communications Commission indicated today that the Supreme Court's verdict of guilty in the Paramount case may count heavily against applications of "Big Five" subsidiaries for radio stations, television and otherwise.

The commission's position was made known in connection with the application of Murphy Broadcasting Co. to assign to Tri-States Meredith Broadcasting Co. the license of stations KSO and KSO-FM in Des Moines. Tri-States Meredith is owned

(Continued on page 3)

RKO Stockholders To Meet August 31

HOLLYWOOD, July 13.—Radio-Keith-Orpheum's board of directors at 11 o'clock last night concluded a secret two-day meeting with the meagre disclosure that August 31 had been set as the date for a board and stockholders' meeting, at Wilmington, Delaware, when possible changes in board and executive personnel will be effectuated.

It was indicated the studio will continue in *status quo* until then, with three pictures currently shooting winding up schedules and no new production started. Directors Ned E. Depinet, George H. Shaw, Frederick L. Ehrman, L. Lawrence Green and Harry M. Durning flew to New York

(Continued on page 3)

Moves in 3 Chicago Anti-trust Actions

CHICAGO, July 13.—Jackson Park Theatre, Monroe Theatre and the Liberty Theatre anti-trust actions against distributors and major circuits figured in new moves in Federal Court here today.

Distributor defendants were asked to pay \$20,000 for court costs and attorney fees which accrued during the recent Jackson Park contempt hearings, in a petition filed by Thomas McConnell, Jackson Park lawyer, in Federal Judge Michael J. Igoe's district court.

Hearings were set for October 7 in Judge Igoe's court for the Jackson

(Continued on page 3)

By GENE ARNEEL

Difficulties involved in scheduling special event telecast pickups in theatres, the actual and clearly determinable value of such telecasts, and just how much of them the motion picture customer desires on the screen—these are coming into clearer focus as rapidly as the New York Paramount continues its working policy of picking up top news and sports.

Scheduling appears to be more of a problem than anticipated, based on the Paramount's experience with the Philadelphia Beau Jack-Ike Williams fight on Monday night. The plan was to show the bout immediately before the last performance of the feature with the contest figured to come off shortly after 10 P.M. There was a 45-minute

(Continued on page 3)

20th Sold Mexican Stock for Million

Twentieth Century-Fox's investments in securities of its Mexican subsidiaries, costing \$268,360, together with notes receivable from Mexican interests, carried at a cost of \$247,360, were sold as a unit to Mexican interests, it is disclosed in financial statements which the company has filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

It is explained that of the agreed sales price, 5,100,000 pesos (\$1,049,382), there has been realized in dollars some \$638,223. Profit realized in dollars totaled \$122,231.

Remainder of the sales price, 2,000,000 pesos, payable in Mexican currency, is carried in the company's ac-

(Continued on page 3)

No Radical Changes In New Bldg. Code

Proposed new New York State Building Code on the construction and maintenance of motion picture theatres contains no radical changes over those in the present code, John Coggeshall, State Industrial Code Officer, revealed here yesterday as the State Board of Standards and Appeals released to theatre owners a 59-page listing of contemplated code revisions.

The listing, it is explained, will be subject to alteration following a public hearing on the new code scheduled for next Wednesday at the Empire State Building here. Since public hearings were held by the board in

(Continued on page 3)

Procedure on Divorce Quiz Set by 'Big 5'

Answers To Be Submitted As They Are Prepared

Procedure on the preparation and submission of information on joint theatre ownerships sought by the Government under the U. S. Supreme Court decision in the Paramount anti-trust case, has been adopted by the "Big Five" defendants.

Rather than submit at one time all of the answers to Government questions which they consider justified, the defendants propose to feed the information to the Department of Justice piecemeal as they go along. Objections to questions to which exception is taken will be argued in U. S. District Court here.

While it still was not known yesterday how generous an extension of
(Continued on page 3)

MGM Cost Alignment Planned at Studio

HOLLYWOOD, July 13.—Loew president Nicholas M. Schenck flew East last night following weekend talks with production chief Louis B. Mayer, vice-president and treasurer Charles Moskowitz, and vice-president and general counsel J. Robert Rubin, who are instituting a checkup of studio operations with respect to operational changes to bring production costs into alignment with exhibition revenues.

Talks so far have been centered on
(Continued on page 3)

US Companies File Brazil Injunctions

Sao Paulo, Brazil, July 13.—All American distributors represented here have entered court injunctions against the Brazilian Price Control Board's regulation limiting distributors' film percentages to 40 per cent. The Americans charge that the regulation is unconstitutional. The Brazilian Ministry of Labor is reported already to have found the regulation unconstitutional.

Personal Mention

JACK COHN, **A. MONTAGUE** and **JOSEPH MC CONVILLE** have returned to New York from Columbia executive meetings on the Coast. **NATE B. SPINGOLD** will return here tomorrow and **A. SCHNEIDER** on Monday. **LEO JAFFEE** will remain on the Coast for an extended visit.

JEAN HERSHOLT, **RAYMOND MASEY**, **JANIS CARTER**, **VALENTINA CORSETTI**, Italian film actress; **MAX MILLAR**, publicist, and **CHRISTOPHER ISHERWOOD**, screenwriter, are among passengers due here today on the *SS Queen Elizabeth* from Europe.

FRANK ALBERTSON, screen actor, and **MRS. ALBERTSON** have become parents of their third daughter, **MUNDY**, born Sunday in Los Angeles.

IRVING SCHWARTZ, secretary-treasurer of Lasker-Schwartz, will return to New York today from a New Hampshire vacation.

WALTER JANCKE, city manager of Dent Theatres in Lincoln, Neb., has been hospitalized following an attack of polio.

MRS. HENRY GINSBERG, wife of the Paramount studio executive, will leave New York tomorrow for the Coast.

ENDRE BOHEM, Paramount producer, will fly back to the Coast tomorrow from New York.

CARROLL PUCIATO and **JAMES HARRIS**, Realart executives, are in Boston today from New York.

MOREY GOLDSTEIN, Monogram general sales manager, is in Boston today from New York.

CHARLIE MOORE of Wilson and Moore Enterprises, Atlanta, is in Florida on business.

PAUL BRODER, Realart president, is due here today from Detroit.

Bacher Deal with SRO Bogs Down in Dispute

HOLLYWOOD, July 13.—Deal under which William Bacher was to produce "If This Be My Harvest" independently for Selznick Releasing Organization, with stars Valli, Louis Jourdan and Robert Mitchum borrowed from Vanguard, broke down yesterday, the date scheduled for shooting, when Vanguard instructed the players to disregard the call from Bacher to report for work. Selznick's office explained that it was withholding the stars due to Bacher's failure to re-write the script to conform with criticisms by David O. Selznick.

Bacher, asserting that "we have met every condition and fulfilled every requirement of our agreement with Vanguard and SRO," said the matter has been placed in the hands of his attorneys.

2 Cases on Studio Strike to NLRB

WASHINGTON, July 13.—Argument on two complaints arising from the 1945-1946 jurisdictional disputes in Hollywood were aired today before the National Labor Relations Board. There was no indication when a decision will be handed down.

In one of the cases, the International Association of Machinists charged major studios, independents and the Association of Motion Picture Producers with unfair labor practices. While holding that the producers had lawfully bargained with the union, an NLRB trial examiner found that the companies had discriminated against 10 IAM members and ordered them reinstated. The IAM today asked the board to reverse its finding on bargaining, while Robert Gilbert, arguing for IATSE, asked the board not to make any finding which would preclude an election now among studio machinists, claiming that the situation has changed completely since the IAM was certified in 1945.

In the other case, the board was asked to decide whether the studios had the right to refuse to employ 25 IATSE members who refused to cross picket lines of the Conference of Studio Unions. Attorneys for the producers declared the 25 unionists were aiding an illegal strike and were joined by IATSE attorneys Matthew Levy and Michael Luddy, who said they were disloyal union members and, as such, had no rights to studio jobs.

George Landis Quits 20th-Fox Branch Post

INDIANAPOLIS, July 13. — George Landis, 20th Century-Fox branch manager here for 20 years, has resigned, effective next Saturday, to devote his full time to management of Amusement Enterprises, local neighborhood group, in which he is a stockholder. Thomas McCleaster, former office and sales manager of the Indianapolis branch, is his successor.

Landis started as a salesman for World Films in Chicago in 1915, coming to Indianapolis in 1921 as a salesman for Fox. He was Fox branch manager in Washington, D. C., from 1924 to 1926.

Capital Owners Will Meet, Eat and Bathe

WASHINGTON, July 13. — Members of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of Metropolitan Washington have found the ideal way to hold business meetings and still not mind the Washington heat. They will meet this Sunday at the Patuxent River farm of president A. Julian Brylawski, and the regular business meeting will be followed by a beach party.

Conn. MPTO Golf Meet

NEW HAVEN, July 13.—Motion Picture Theatre Owners of Connecticut will hold its annual golf tournament on August 24 at the Racebrook Country Club in Orange, Conn., George H. Wilkinson, Jr., chairman of the arrangements committee, has announced.

Rites Tomorrow for King Baggott, 69

LOS ANGELES, July 13.—Funeral services will be held at Pierce Brothers Mortuary on Thursday for King Baggott, 69, silent film star and subsequently a director, who died Sunday in a sanitarium. He was active in motion pictures from 1909, when he left a stock company to enter films, until illness led to his retirement a year ago.

Baggott was born in St. Louis. He attended the Christian Brothers College where he became a star soccer and baseball player. He was the first president of the Screen Club, which he helped to organize. A son, Robert King Baggott, survives.

Charles G. Deckman, Cleveland Owner

CLEVELAND, July 13.—Charles G. Deckman, 58, with extensive business interests, including theatres and recreation centers in Cleveland, Florida and Canada, died suddenly over the weekend of a heart attack while vacationing at his Ontario fishing lodge, it was learned here today.

Surviving are the widow, Ethel; a daughter, Edith Jones, and a son, Charles G., Jr. Services will be held in Cleveland tomorrow.

B. B. Segal To Handle Israel News Review

Bernard B. Segal has been placed in charge of 16mm. distribution of the forthcoming monthly news review, "Israel Today," by Norman Lourie, president of Palestine Films, producers of the series. Segal will handle distribution in cooperation with the National Jewish Welfare Board and similar organizations.

Under a deal concluded with Spyros P. Skouras, 20th Century-Fox will handle worldwide distribution of "Israel Reborn," first issue of the review, Lourie also announced.

'Tap Roots' in World Bow in Phila. Today

PHILADELPHIA, July 13. — "Tap Roots," Walter Wanger production for Universal-International, will be given its world premiere tomorrow morning at the Goldman Theatre here. A special screening of the film was held at the theatre at midnight for members of the press and radio as well as delegates to the Democratic convention.

Open Three in Monterrey

MONTERREY, Mexico, July 13.—Opening of three new theatres here brings Monterrey's total to 21. The new houses are the Cines Monterrey, seating 5,200; the Reforma, 5,000, and the Araceli, 2,500. The three are operated by the Gabriel Alarcon circuit.

Babe Zaharias in Shorts

Columbia Pictures has signed Babe Didrikson Zaharias, woman athlete, for a series of three golf shorts, to be part of Columbia's "World of Sports" series with Bill Stern as narrator, for release in the fall. Producer-director is Harry Foster.

Newsreel Parade

DOMINANT in all current newsreels is the Democratic convention in Philadelphia. In the sports department Olympic track try-outs are featured. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 46—Democratic convention in Philadelphia. Last of British forces leave Haifa. Gen. MacArthur saluted at Imperial Palace in Tokyo. U. S. Olympic teams prepare for track and try-outs. Swimming and diving championships.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 290—1948 Democratic convention. Israel defies foes as truce ends. Thrills in final Olympic trials.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 93—Democratic convention in Philadelphia. U. S. teams ready for Olympic final track try-outs. Olympic swimming and diving teams picked.

UNIVERSAL NEWS, No. 160—Democratic convention opens to choose 1948 ticket. Final trials for Olympics.

WARNER PATHE NEWS, No. 95—Democratic convention. United Nations discusses Palestine. French seashore fashions. Olympic try-outs.



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Films Now Accepted For Air Mailing

U. S. Post Office Department has approved the shipment of film by airmail, at the request of the Motion Picture Association of America, the latter declared here yesterday in disclosing that it had interceded with postal authorities on behalf of news-companies. Heretofore, film shipments could be sent by air only by air express or by private shipment.

Robert S. Burgess, Deputy Second Assistant Postmaster General, has advised that the Post Office Department has nullified the order that prohibited the transmission of films by first-class airmail. Film containers must carry the regulation yellow caution labels.

MGM Studio Talks

(Continued from page 1)

estimates of potential income from exhibition and distribution in the predictable future. Department heads have been instructed to prepare economy proposals for submission to the executive groups during the meeting sessions, which will continue for some time. Moskowitz plans to stay here for a month.

Among matters discussed by the M-G-M executives was the addition of Dore Schary to the roster of producers. Negotiations were continuing today, reportedly to give the former RKO Radio production vice-president responsibility for three productions annually. Schary, who is known to have other offers of various kinds under study, today said none have reached the conclusive stage.

RKO Meeting

(Continued from page 1)

today. Malcolm Kingsberg planes to San Francisco tomorrow to start a tour of key cities.

The directorate was sheltered from press inquiries throughout the stay in Hollywood. Meetings were held at the home of N. Peter Rathvon, president, who took over Dore Schary's executive production duties on the latter's resignation and is expected to continue in command until the Wilmington meeting. No appointment of a successor to Schary is expected in the immediate future. Howard Hughes, Floyd Odium and Rathvon will attend the Wilmington session.

Chicago Suits

(Continued from page 1)

Park's petition of several months ago which asked distributor defendants for an additional \$100,000 damages on the grounds that the theatre suffered that loss during the pendency of the appeal from October 1946 to November 1947. Judge Igoe's original decree was stayed for 13 months while Circuit and Supreme Courts passed on the appeal. Appeal bonds were posted by the defendants in that amount.

Balaban and Katz filed answers and objections to interrogatories in the Monroe Theatre \$1,580,000 anti-trust suit against the majors here. Plaintiff's attorney is Seymour Simon.

Depositions are being taken this week by plaintiff attorney Simon in the Liberty Theatre trust suit of Louis Philon, the plaintiff, and Maurice Ruben, Great States Circuit head; Jack Rose of the Manta Rose Circuit, and James Coston, Warner Theatres' head here.

Review

"That Lady in Ermine"

(20th Century-Fox)

BETTY GRABLE, who still packs 'em in, gets away from period musicals this time. Her legions may find the switch a welcome one and enough recompense for what "That Lady in Ermine" lacks.

Where this eye-filling and oftentimes charming and humorous attraction is weak is in its story, which is centered in a mythical duchy called Bergamo somewhere in Southeastern Europe on the high road to Rome about 90 years ago, Miss Grable is its presiding noblewoman just married to Cesar Romero who leaves at the time of decision to resist a conquering column of Hungarian Hussars under command of Douglas Fairbanks, Jr.

Miss Grable's problem in statesmanship is how to handle the situation. For an answer, she turns back Bergamo's history 300 years to the time when an identical crisis was solved by her facsimile ancestor who made up to the 16th century victor and finally knocked him off with a dagger between the shoulder blades. Not quite up to the slaughter idea, Miss Grable is relieved of the issue when her ancestor takes over and goes highly romantic with Fairbanks in a dream sequence of such high jinks that both of them finally sail through the roof of the castle. It must have been jet propulsion.

The morning after, Fairbanks comes to realize he was earthbound the night before. His love unrequited, he releases the castle and is finally joined by Miss Grable whose never-completed marriage with Romero has gone bust. The track is clear for the disjointed romance to slip into its groove for a happy finish.

If this appears confused, the reporting is accurate; for so, too, is the picture. Moreover, its thin story structure is not completely bridged by incidental pieces of business although there are many passages of charm and humor ingeniously and pleasantly contrived.

The Technicolor cameras, as usual, are duck soup for Miss Grable who is always photographed well and often on the breathless side. Her performance is quite competent and the several tinkling song numbers assigned to her are engagingly delivered. As the dashing Hussar, Fairbanks cuts quite a dashing figure and gears his performance neatly to the mood at hand. Other acting chores are well handled by Walter Abel, as Fairbanks' adjutant; Harry Davenport, as the major-domo, Reginald Gardiner as Alberto and Romero as Mario.

The late Ernst Lubitsch began production and direction of "That Lady in Ermine" prior to his death. Otto Preminger completed the film, without screen credit, at his own request. Samuelson Raphaelson wrote the screenplay and Leo Robin and Frederick Hollander the lyrics and music. Production values are luscious. So is Miss Grable.

Running time, 89 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, August, 1948. RED KANN

New Building Code

(Continued from page 1)

June of last year, a number of additions and amendments have been made in the proposed revision. Subsequent to the 1947 hearings, the draft was completely reviewed with regard to comments and suggestions made at those hearings, it is reported in the document released yesterday.

Among structural requirements of theatres to be reviewed are exits, projection booth facilities, film storage, seating, and various features relating to drive-ins.

Divorce Quiz

(Continued from page 1)

time the Government would grant for the submission of answers to the interrogatories which were served on the "Big Five" on July 1, it was believed a shortage of help due to summer vacations would influence the Department of Justice in deciding on a new deadline.

Warner Seeks Delay In K-B Theatre Suit

WASHINGTON, July 13. — Warner Brothers tomorrow will ask Federal District Court here to give it until September 30 to answer the suit of K-B Amusement Co., which is attempting to force Warner to give up its joint interest with K-B in the MacArthur Theatre here. K-B has opposed giving so much time, and the motion will probably be set for argument.

Truman To Dedicate 'Salute Youth' Stamp

President Truman will dedicate a three-cent "Salute to Youth" stamp on August 11 as a preliminary to the national observance of "Youth Month," in September, fostered by the Theatre Owners of America, J. M. Donaldson, Postmaster General, advised the TOA yesterday.

CEA - Rank Meeting

(Continued from page 1)

dictation from Rank. Even the most sober-minded among them discern that decisions taken at tomorrow's meeting will settle the pattern of their operations for years to come. They do not propose that their delegates shall enter into parleys with Rank without proper briefing. And so today a meeting of rank-and-file theatremen was convened by John Xavier Prendergast of York and Charles Metcalfe of Leeds. Original intention was that the meeting should be a sort of "Rally of Remonstrance," with all welcome. It was later decided that the meeting be held behind closed doors. Exhibitors do not want to disclose their tactics to Rank in advance. But it is clear that all independents will present a united front in combatting the quota order, which they regard as wholly impracticable, and the booking terms which Rank seeks to impose upon them.

Climaxing these discussions will be the meeting arranged between president of the Board of Trade Harold Wilson and a CEA delegation on Monday.

FCC Weighs

(Continued from page 1)

50 per cent by Tri-States Theatres, a Paramount subsidiary.

Today the FCC said it has not yet acted on the application because "certain substantial considerations" have arisen. These "considerations," the FCC made clear, were the Paramount decision.

Cite Decision on Trade Practices

"That decision," the commission wrote the parties to the application, "predicated on a suit brought by the U. S. to restrain Paramount and others from violating the Sherman Anti-Trust Act, adjudged the defendants, including Paramount, in violation of that act and formally enjoined them from pursuing the practices in restraint of trade originally complained of. That decision is of interest to this commission in considering the assignment before it because of the ownership by Paramount Pictures, Inc., of stock in Tri-States Theatres, Inc., which latter organization in turn holds 50 per cent ownership of the instant assignee."

The commission also asked the parties involved to submit briefs with respect to this issue.

'Heavy' Influence Seen

The FCC statement does not, of course, mean that all applications by subsidiaries of the theatre-owning defendants will be turned down automatically, but it does indicate the FCC is weighing the decision and will consider it heavily in passing on the applications from Paramount subsidiaries for television stations.

The FCC's pre-occupation with the Paramount case is pointed up by the fact that the record in the Paramount case was included in the hearings on applications for San Francisco stations.

Video Scheduling

(Continued from page 1)

delay and consequently the theatre had to screen three shorts, pick up about 10 minutes of the Democrats' Philadelphia convention and then offer organ music. The audience had become slightly weary. The fight looked good on the big screen but the 45 minutes of fill-ins made for an over-dose.

Both the Joe Louis and the Williams fights must be credited to some extent at least with boosting the theatre's revenue. On both occasions the audiences were enthusiastic and there was no discernible disappointment. The pick-up of the convention, with Senator Barkley making the keynote address taking the spotlight, was another story. It was partly enjoyable only because the Senator's gesticulating and oratorical mishaps had an unintentionally humorous effect. It was Barkley who caused the delay of the fight pictures because the only available coaxial cable transmission from Philadelphia was given to his over-time talk.

20th Mexican Stocks

(Continued from page 1)

counts at \$400,000, offset by 100 per cent reserve, it is recorded. If and when collections are made thereon, they will constitute additional profit on the transaction, the statement says.

The statement confirmed earlier reports that 20th-Fox's subsidiary, National Theatres, disposed during the year of three Mexican subsidiaries in each of which National had a 51 per cent interest.

VITAMIN M-G-M FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY!

MAY

SPENCER TRACY
KATHARINE HEPBURN
VAN JOHNSON
Angela Lansbury
Adolphe Menjou, Lewis Stone
in FRANK CAPRA's
"STATE OF THE UNION."

"SUMMER HOLIDAY"
(Technicolor).

MICKEY ROONEY
GLORIA DEHAVEN
Walter Huston, Frank Morgan
Butch Jenkins, Marilyn Maxwell
Agnes Moorehead, Selena Royle.

CLARK GABLE
LANA TURNER
Anne Baxter, John Hodiak
in "HOMECOMING"
Ray Collins, Gladys Cooper,
Cameron Mitchell.

JUNE

"BIG CITY"
Starring Margaret O'Brien
Robert Preston, Danny Thomas
George Murphy, Karin Booth
Edward Arnold, Butch Jenkins
Betty Garrett, Lotte Lehmann.

JUDY GARLAND, GENE KELLY in
"THE PIRATE" (Technicolor).
Walter Slezak, Gladys Cooper
Reginald Owen.

ESTHER WILLIAMS, PETER LAWFORD
RICARDO MONTALBAN
JIMMY DURANTE, CYD CHARISSE
XAVIER CUGAT in "ON AN ISLAND
WITH YOU" (Technicolor).

JULY

IRVING BERLIN's
"EASTER PARADE"
(Technicolor). Starring
JUDY GARLAND, FRED ASTAIRE
PETER LAWFORD, ANN MILLER.

"A DATE WITH JUDY"
(Technicolor).
Starring WALLACE BEERY,
JANE POWELL, ELIZABETH TAYLOR
CARMEN MIRANDA, XAVIER CUGAT
ROBERT STACK.

AUGUST

GREER GARSON
WALTER PIDGEON in
"JULIA MISBEHAVES"
PETER LAWFORD, ELIZABETH TAYLOR
CESAR ROMERO, Lucile Watson
Nigel Bruce, Mary Boland
Reginald Owen.

MONTGOMERY CLIFT
ALINE MACMAHON
JARMILA NOVOTNA
in "THE SEARCH"

RED SKELTON, BRIAN DONLEVY
in "A SOUTHERN YANKEE"
Arlene Dahl, George Coulouris
Lloyd Gough, John Ireland
Minor Watson.

SEPTEMBER

"THE THREE MUSKETEERS"
(Technicolor).
LANA TURNER, GENE KELLY
JUNE ALLYSON, VAN HEFLIN
ANGELA LANSBURY,
Frank Morgan, Vincent Price
Keenan Wynn, John Sutton
Gig Young.

LASSIE in "HILLS OF HOME"
(Technicolor). Co-starring
EDMUND GWENN, DONALD CRISP
TOM DRAKE, JANET LEIGH.

"HURRY WITH THE THERE'S AN M-G-M



**"GABLE-TURNER
TONIGHT!"**
The fans are flocking
to see romantic
"Homecoming"!

**"ON AN
ISLAND WITH
YOU' TONIGHT!"**
Latest M-G-M
Technicolor musi-
cal sensation
is sweeping
the nation!
Esther Williams
and Big Cast!

**"STATE OF
THE UNION'
TONIGHT!"**
Yes, Frank Capra's
latest hit! Spencer Tracy,
Katharine Hepburn,
Van Johnson!

**"A DATE
WITH JUDY'
TONIGHT!"**
Such Technicolor
musical joy! Just
what the fans ordered!
Big name cast!

EDISHES MA! MOVIE TONIGHT!"

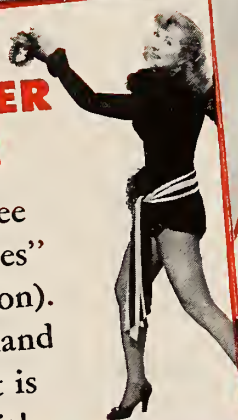


"They won't even bother with the dishes when 'EASTER PARADE' comes to town!"



Yes, it's **GREER** in **TIGHTS!**

Wait till you see "Julia Misbehaves" (Garson-Pidgeon). You'll understand why the Coast is raving about it!



"THREE MUSKETEERS"!

Imagine a Giant Technicolor Drama with a cast including Lana Turner, Gene Kelly, June Allyson, Van Heflin, Angela Lansbury and more! Preview raves predict a Big One!



"EASTER PARADE" IS HOLLYWOOD'S TOP MUSICAL OF 1948"

says Liberty Magazine. Irving Berlin's marvelous M-G-M Technicolor musical is setting phenomenal records at Loew's State, Broadway's new home of important pictures.

Big in Baltimore and watch tomorrow throughout America!

Oh, what a wonderful summer (when you've got M-G-M Pictures!) Are you taking your Vitamin M-G-M regularly? It's so good for what ails you! It's a pepper-upper for the entire industry!

NEW YORK'S CELEBRATED CRITICS DELIVER

STRAIGHT-FROM-THE-SHOULDER PRAISE

For Paramount's

STRAIGHT-FROM-THE-SHOULDER PICTURE

"CRONIN'S MOST HONEST AND SAVAGE NOVEL.

Talent of excellent screen performers is evident . . . the acting compelling. The sequence in which Newton discovers his assistant in his mistress's flat and learns that the blackguard has got his daughter with child is a terrifying bit of motion picture melodrama. Miss Kerr is always right as the unfortunate victim; Mason fine as an understanding but thwarted suitor and Emlyn Williams particularly villainous."

—Howard Barnes, *Herald Tribune*

• • •

"VIOLENT ENTERTAINMENT . . . WELL PLAYED.

'Hatter's Castle' is graphic . . . and it follows Mr. Cronin's book. Newton is probably one of the frankest villains the screen has ever shown. Miss Kerr is most touching. Beatrice Varley is extremely affecting. The production is picturesque."

—Bosley Crowther, *N. Y. Times*

• • •

"WE RECOMMEND IT.

Colder than Scrooge, evil as Hitler, cunning as Machiavelli is the middle-class tradesman whose volcanic life is unfolded in 'Hatter's Castle.' This movie adaptation of

A. J. Cronin's best-seller has an excellent cast. Newton portrays the megalomaniac hatter with force, at times injecting a note of pure horror into his characterization. The picture is more or less a one-man performance since every scene is dominated by either the hatter's presence or fear of it. This in no way, however, belittles the other performers. The picture 'comes off'."

—Justin Gilbert, *N. Y. Mirror*

• • •

"VIGOROUS EMOTION. EVERYTHING IS THERE. The cast is capable. The settings are interesting, and the atmosphere."

—Eileen Creelman, *The Sun*

• • •

"STRONGLY FASHIONED . . . the performances good.

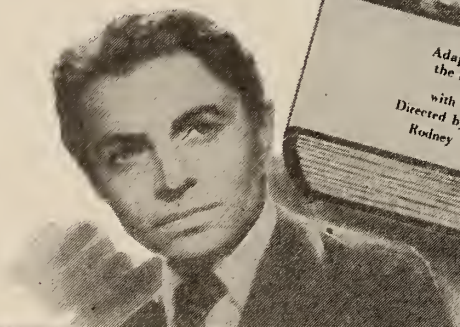
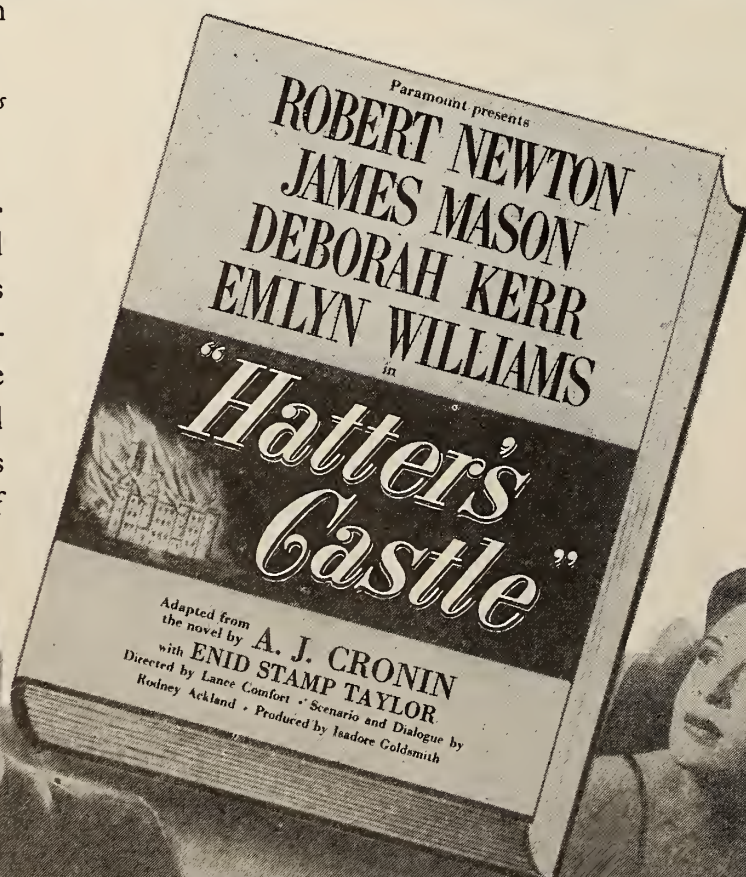
Newton dedicated to portrayal of hypocritical tyrant, lets go with both barrels of the bravura actor's spirit that is his."

—Archer Winsten, *Post*

• • •

"BURSTING WITH VOLCANIC PERFORMANCES by James Mason, Robert Newton and Emlyn Williams."

—Alton Cook, *World-Telegram*



BOOK
"THE MAGIC CY"
—FREE!

Rank Yields To Irate CEA On Practices

Appeals to National Pride In Defending New Quota

LONDON, July 14.—J. Arthur Rank today succeeded in appeasing to a considerable degree a meeting of the Cinematograph Exhibitors Association's general council which had assembled in an angry, indignant mood over the new quota law, British Film Producer Association "threats" in behalf of enforcement and reports that Rank was preparing to put on "the squeeze" for higher rentals for his pictures.

Asserting that "our business is one of negotiation and mutual understanding," Rank said his General Film Distributors does not intend to ask any exhibitor to pay more than 50 per cent for any film on its general release. He denied vehemently that he would advocate prose-

(Continued on page 6)

Rank Proposes GFD Arbitration Setup

LONDON, July 14.—J. Arthur Rank proposed at the meeting of the Cinematograph Exhibitors Association general council here today that an independent tribunal be set up to adjudicate all claims for adjustments where his General Film Distributors and its exhibitor customers fail to agree. It will be available, he said, as a promise that GFD does not claim to be the sole arbiter of what is fair or what is reasonable in rental terms and other such issues.

He proposed that the tribunal be made up of three individuals: one a renter who is a director of a British-

(Continued on page 6)

Walter W. Irwin, 67, An Industry Pioneer

Walter W. Irwin, 67, who organized the Vitaphone - Lubin - Selig - Essanay Co. and later was vice-president of the Famous Players Lasky Corp., died yesterday in New York Hospital after a brief illness.

He was prominent in the formation of the National Association of the Motion Picture Industry and was chairman of its executive committee for four years.

The widow survives.

Sir Alexander Asks The \$64 Question

London, July 14.—At the conclusion of J. Arthur Rank's remarks in behalf of the new 45 per cent quota at the Cinematograph Exhibitors Association general council meeting here today, Sir Alexander King, leading British exhibitor, asked the industry leader how he can expect to make 60 successful pictures annually when the Americans, as Rank maintains, cannot.

"I'm dead scared of this quota," Sir Alexander declared. He told Rank that his (Rank's) "economic fallacy is sowing the seeds of your own destruction."

AFM Asks Producer Parley in Chicago

James C. Petrillo, president of the American Federation of Musicians, has invited the film producers labor committee in Hollywood to commence negotiations on a new basic studio agreement early next month in Chicago, an AFM spokesman reported here yesterday. Present two-year contract, covering the 340 musicians employed at eight major studios, will expire on August 31.

The AFM spokesman said Petrillo has selected Chicago as the site for this year's negotiations to make it pos-

(Continued on page 6)

Wallace Convention Next on Television

Full television coverage of the three-day convention of the Henry Wallace Third Party in Philadelphia, beginning July 23, is planned by all video networks and independent stations along the Eastern Seaboard. The material will again be pooled.

First Share of US Money in England Being Transferred

While yesterday was the date for the first remittable share of earnings due U. S. companies from the British market under the dollar-exchange agreement which settled the British 75 per cent import tax, in practical meaning it marked the time the mechanics of the involved fiscal operation were begun. Executives here said their London offices merely filed statements on the past month's earnings with the Anglo-U. S. control board which governs the operation of the dollar exchange.

Next step is for the board to have converted, through the Bank of England, British pounds to American dollars and then transfer the money to American banks for distribution among the American companies quarterly, on the basis of their earnings in England. The total is not to exceed one month's part, or one-twelfth of the \$17,000,000 per annum in remittables agreed upon, this totaling to \$1,416,000.

4 Top Films, Others For RKO This Year

HOLLYWOOD, July 14.—Four top-budget pictures, four or five smaller budget features and a steady flow of short subjects will be produced by RKO Radio during the next five months, N. Peter Rathvon, RKO president, announced today in contradiction of reports that the studio would shut down preparatory to inception of Howard Hughes' regime. Rathvon's statement referred to the present lull in studio activity as a "curtailment."

First of the top-budget films named is "Interference," which started shooting last week. The others will be named shortly. "Every Girl Should

(Continued on page 4)

NY Paramount 1st with Regular Video Policy

Paramount yesterday disclosed it has adopted as a regular policy the use of full-screen television at its Paramount Theatre on Broadway. This is the first theatre in the U. S. to attach box-office importance to the new medium to the extent of announcing it as a "regular entertainment feature."

"Regular" means "as often as we

find the right material," it was explained by Paul Raibourn, president of the Television Productions, Paramount subsidiary.

The house will telecast spot news and sporting events for its patrons and when the events are of top interest, such as a heavyweight championship fight, the theatre will consider a tilt in admission scales, Raibourn said.

Schary Heads M-G-M Studio Under Mayer

Is New V.-P. in Charge Of Production There

HOLLYWOOD, July 14.—Dore Schary joins M-G-M as vice-president in charge of production under a long-term contract signed Tuesday, the studio formally declared today. He will supersede all other production executives at Metro, will be answerable directly to Louis B. Mayer, whose title as production vice-president, in fact, Schary now assumes.



Dore Schary

Completion of negotiations followed extended conferences between Schary and Nicholas M. Schenck, president of Loew's, who flew here from New York last week for this express purpose, together with resident studio officials. These

(Continued on page 4)

Majors to Inform US of Quiz Moves

A program on time extension for the submission of data on joint theatre ownership asked for by the Government under the U. S. Supreme Court decision in the Paramount anti-trust case will be worked out by the "Big Five" defendants under an understanding with Robert L. Wright, special assistant to the U. S. attorney general.

The companies have agreed to let

(Continued on page 6)

Specify Data Sought For Monopoly Probe

WASHINGTON, July 14.—Questionnaire being circulated by the House Small Business Committee among "small businessmen" in the film and other industries, preparatory to holding hearings on monopoly and anti-trust law enforcement, requests the following information:

Outline in the order of importance the competitive problems of your in-

(Continued on page 6)

Personal Mention

J. ROBERT RUBIN, M-G-M vice-president and general counsel, is due back in New York from the Coast.

LOUIS W. SCHINE, Schine Circuit vice-president, was in Albany, N. Y., this week from Gloversville. **SEYMOUR MORRIS**, Schine publicity director, was in Albany yesterday.

GERALD MAYER, director of the Motion Picture Association of America's international division, who is in Paris, has postponed his return to New York to late this month.

EDWARD M. SCHNITZER, United Artists Eastern and Canadian sales manager, is due back here on Monday from a vacation in Canada.

JACK ODELL, United Artists manager in Puerto Rico, and **MRS. ODELL** have become parents of twins, a boy and a girl.

EUGEN SHARIN, Ambassador Films president, will leave here by plane today for visits to Austria, Switzerland, France and Italy.

MELVIN SPRINKLE of the New York staff of Altec Lansing, and **MRS. SPRINKLE**, are parents of a daughter, **JANET ELAINE**.

J. EARL LAWSON, president of Odeon Theatres of Canada, has been appointed a director of the National General Insurance Co., Toronto.

ROSELLEN CALLAHAN, United Artists syndicate contact, will leave here tomorrow for a vacation.

ALEXANDER LEFTWICH, JR., has joined CBS Television here as a producer-director.

JOHN LUND and his wife are en route to the Coast from New York.

European Studios Seek U.S. Equipment

European producers are encountering some difficulties in obtaining import licenses for American studio and recording equipment, according to **E. G. Wagner**, Westrex comptroller, who has returned to New York from a seven-week tour of Western Electric's offices in Europe.

Misrepresentation

An unauthorized person using a Woodside, Long Island, address is soliciting publicity releases and theatre tickets on the misrepresentation that he is on the staff of **MOTION PICTURE DAILY**. Staff members carry credentials and receive business mail at the publication office.—**THE EDITOR**.

UA Board Meeting

United Artists' board of directors met here yesterday in what was described by a company spokesman as a routine session.

Insider's Outlook

By **RED KANN**

IN ten columns of type and photos, plus cover, the current edition of *Time* magazine sets out to acquaint some millions of the American public with the mechanism and the background of Howard R. [for Robard] Hughes.

The profile makes lively reading and is of considerable interest because it also draws unfamiliar word pictures for an industry in which "this tall, gangling, aging, sick-looking man of 42 whose life and eccentricities have built a lurid legend" is assuming greater stature.

"What did Hughes, the lone wolf, want with RKO?" asks *Time*, which proceeds to supply its own answer. "He takes great pains to hide his motive, but no doubt one motive was his hankering for theatre outlets. . . . Hughes had great trouble distributing 'The Outlaw' . . . mainly because of censorship, but partly because independent exhibitors were simply afraid of it. . . . Hughes firmly believes that, if distribution obstacles can be overcome, 'The Outlaw' will bring in one of the fattest yields of all time."

Now that he controls RKO, Hughes predicts this future for himself: "My life is not exactly going to be dull for the next two years. I am really cooking at RKO and things are going to pop. . . ." Helping him make them pop will be the successor to **Dore Schary**, who yesterday became M-G-M's new production vice-president. Unnamed thus far, *Time* reports Hughes on his present imponderable: "It will be someone you least suspect, a shocker."

Parent base of Hughes' financial resources, of course, is the Hughes Tool Company. The article tells about that, too. "With his partner, **Walter Sharp** [Hughes, Sr.] struck oil in the Goose Creek [Tex.] field, but the two-edged 'fishail' bits used in those days broke on subterranean rock. Thereupon Hughes designed a conical bit with 166 cutting edges. That tool is the original source and still the main prop of the Hughes fortune, which now amounts to about \$145,000,000."

In the cause of complete coverage, *Time's* sleuths eventually get around to a collection of

paragraphs on the private and commercial characteristics of their subject. "The private life of Howard Hughes might be described as a complete and carefully protected disorder. He has no interest in clothes, only the barest minimum of interest in food and sleep. He owns five suits, of which the newest is five years old; he is rumpled and disheveled most of the time, gets dressed up only for special occasions. He postpones haircuts as long as possible."

" . . . the telephone is, by long odds, his favorite channel of communication with other human beings. Since he sleeps only when he is sleepy, he calls up his lieutenants at all hours of the night. Sometimes he identifies himself as 'Mr. Hoyt'."

Hughes, this account races on, has no office, seems to prefer business appointments in remote places "usually at night, and he is always 20 minutes to two hours late if he shows up at all." He lives in a house rented from **Cary Grant** and to it "few male visitors are admitted. . . . He has . . . no servants in the ordinary sense, but a quartet of aide-de-camps including "Charlie Guest, his old golf pro, and another man named **Barry** who might be described as lieutenants in charge of odds and ends including admissions and evictions; **Johnny Meyers**, the man with the telephone numbers; and **Dick Davis**, a Carl Byoir associate [high voltage publicity]."

Only three pictures were in work at RKO last week. Starting this week was one "that would be right down Hughes' alley—a virile saga of professional football called "Interference." *Time* managed to find someone who is supposed to have said, "Just wait until Junior gets his teeth into that one."

In back of all this is an observation which the news magazine attributes to Hughes after he had completed his first cycle of pictures—"Hell's Angels," "Scarface" and "The Front Page": *Movies are a cinch. The more you spend the more you make.*

If he did say this, his biggest opportunity to prove it is ahead, not behind him. It begins August 31 in Wilmington, Del., when corporate control of RKO officially passes to his hands.

Cleveland, Cincinnati To Aid Rogers Fund

CLEVELAND, July 14.—Cleveland and Cincinnati film representatives, headed by **Martin G. Smith**, Ohio Independent Theatre Owners president; **Ernest Schwartz**, Cleveland Motion Picture Exhibitors Association head, and **Meyer Fine**, president of Associated Theatre Circuit, have agreed to work for a \$75,000 quota in each exchange area for the **Will Rogers Memorial Hospital** at Saranac Lake, N. Y.

Pledges were made following a luncheon meeting here yesterday with **Charles Reagan**, Paramount vice-president, and **Andy Smith, Jr.**, 20th Century-Fox general sales manager. **I. J. Schmertz** was named chairman of the Cleveland committee and **Alan Moritz** of the Cincinnati committee.

Duff and Weiss in New Selling Posts

CINCINNATI, July 14.—**Donald R. Duff** has been made general sales manager of Popular Pictures. With **Lee L. Goldberg**, he will concentrate on circuits booked out of Cincinnati.

Samuel Weiss, formerly manager in the St. Louis office and salesman in Cincinnati for Eagle-Lion, has been engaged to cover Southern Ohio and Eastern Kentucky for Realart.

'4-H' Girl at Reception

Clara E. Mabey of Lafayette, N. J., one of the four finalists in the search for a 4-H Club girl to play a major role in the **Glenn McCarthy-Robert Paige** film, "The Green Promise," was guest of honor here yesterday at a press reception in the St. Regis Hotel penthouse.

Mrs. Josephine Abrahams

Services were held here on Tuesday for **Mrs. Josephine Abrahams**, 70, mother of **Sanford Abrahams**, advertising manager of Allied Artists and Monogram in Hollywood, who flew here for the funeral. Also surviving are the widower, **Maurice**, and a daughter, **Mrs. Marian Leopold**.

Burns Rites Tomorrow

Funeral services for **Harry Burns**, 63, screen veteran, will be held in St. Anthony's Church, Bayside, L. I., tomorrow morning, with interment in St. John's Cemetery, Middle Village, Queens. The actor died in Hollywood last Friday.

FULL HOUSE?

it's a cinch with...

"TEXAS, BROOKLYN and HEAVEN"

sent from UA

"LETTER TO A REBEL" BELONGS ON EVERY SCREEN IN THESE U.S."

— PHIL M. DALY in *Film Daily*

- The most important short in years!
- "Folksy, plain-boiled . . . notably interesting,"
says *Terry Ramsaye* in *M. P. Herald*
- "Deserving of anyone's screen," adds *M. P. Daily*
- "High entertainment value . . . Presented vividly,
forcefully," reports *Film Daily*

RKO Pathe presents

"Letter to a Rebel"

another great

THIS IS AMERICA

Produced by Jay Bonafield

Distributed by RKO Radio



Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY correspondents. Estimates omit admission tax.

CHICAGO

Hot weather, beaches and outdoor attractions are proving stiff competition to theatres generally, although some are faring excellently. Estimated receipts for week ending July 15:

ANOTHER PART OF THE FOREST (U-I)—GRAND (1,150) (50c-65c-98c) 5 days, 2nd week. Gross: \$8,500. (Average: \$11,500)
B. F.'S DAUGHTER (M-G-M)—UNITED ARTISTS (1,700) (50c-65c-98c) 5 days, 2nd week. Gross: \$14,500. (Average: \$20,000)
CORONER CREEK (Col.)—ROOSEVELT (1,500) (50c-65c-98c) 5 days, 2nd week. Gross: \$11,000. (Average: \$18,000)
DANGEROUS YEARS (20th-Fox)—ORIENTAL (3,300) (50c-65c-98c) On stage: Dick Haymes. Gross: \$55,000. (Average: \$40,000)
DEEP WATERS (20th-Fox)—APOLLO (1,200) (50c-65c-98c). Gross: \$15,000. (Average: \$14,000)
GREEN GRASS OF WYOMING (20th-Fox)—CHICAGO (3,900) (50c-65c-98c) 2nd week. On stage: Peggy Lee. Gross: \$43,000. (Average: \$40,000)
THE PARADISE CASE (SRO)—WOODS (1,080) (98c) 3 days. **ARCH OF TRIUMPH (UA)** 4 days, 4th week. Gross: \$22,000. (Average: \$23,000)
ROMANCE ON THE HIGH SEAS (Warners)—STATE LAKE (2,700) (50c-65c-98c). Gross: \$30,000. (Average: \$30,000)
UP IN CENTRAL PARK (U-I)—PALACE (2,500) 5 days, 2nd week. **I REMEMBER MAMA (RKO Radio)** 2 days. Gross: \$18,500. (Average: \$21,000)

INDIANAPOLIS

Hot weather and the summer's peak in outdoor competition put a crimp in first-run grosses here this week. "On Our Merry Way" is the only entry playing to above average. Estimated receipts for the week ended July 13-14:

THE ADVENTURES OF CASANOVA (EL) and **THE ENCHANTED VALLEY (EL)**—LYRIC (1,600) (44c-65c). Gross: \$4,500. (Average: \$6,000)
CARNEGIE HALL (UA)—KEITH'S (1,300) (44c-65c). Gross: \$4,500. (Average: \$4,500)
THE EMPEROR WALTZ (Para.)—INDIANA (3,200) (44c-65c) 2nd week. Gross: \$9,500. (Average: \$12,000)
HAZARD (Para.) and **MONEY MADNESS (FC)**—CIRCLE (2,800) (44c-65c). Gross: \$9,000. (Average: \$10,000)
ON OUR MERRY WAY (UA) and **JASSY (U-I)**—LOEW'S (2,450) (44c-65c). Gross: \$12,000. (Average: \$11,000).

BOSTON

Weather is still warm with a high humidity. Outdoor esplanade concerts and night baseball are keeping grosses down. Estimated receipts for the week ended July 14:

CORONER'S CREEK (Col) and **KINGS OF THE OLYMPIC (UA)**—ASTOR (1,300) (44c-80c). Gross: \$5,700. (Average: None available)
DEEP WATERS (20th-Fox) and **JINX MONEY (Mono.)**—PARAMOUNT (1,700) (40c-80c). Gross: \$13,500. (Average: \$17,000)
DEEP WATERS (20th-Fox) and **JINX MONEY (Mono.)**—FENWAY (1,373) (40c-80c). Gross: \$6,800. (Average: \$10,000)
EASTER PARADE (M-G-M)—ORPHEUM (3,000) (40c-80c). Gross: \$3,500. 1 day.
EASTER PARADE (M-G-M)—STATE (3,500) (40c-80c). Gross: \$2,000. 1 day
THE EMPEROR WALTZ (Para.) and **BIG TOWN SCANDAL (Para.)**—METROPOLITAN (4,367) (40c-80c). Gross: \$20,000. 2nd week. With a personal appearance of Dr. I. O. one night.
MR. BLANDINGS BUILDS HIS DREAM HOUSE (SRO) and **MADONNA OF THE**

Review

"Texas, Brooklyn and Heaven"

(Golden Productions-United Artists)

A WACKY film mostly about wacky people, this attraction with its geographic title is an amusing bit of nonsense astutely held to 76 minutes. "Texas, Brooklyn and Heaven" will never prove memorable in any audience's calculations, but there seems to be no reason why it will not entertain in an inconsequential way.

The story base was "Eddie and the Archangel Mike," a *Saturday Evening Post* story by Barry Benefield, but all allusions to angels treading this mortal earth are out. James Dunn, as Mike, is just a bartender with a heart of gold and a laudable enough ambition to lend a helping hand if and where he can. It is he who narrates the story of Eddie (Guy Madison) and Perry (Diana Lynn) and their adventures with Florence Bates, the sly old pickpocket who turns over a new leaf under Miss Lynn's wing. There also are the three Cheever spinsters—Margaret Hamilton, Moyna Magill and Irene Ryan—whose icebound interiors and exteriors are melted by friendly associations; Gaboolian, who runs a fantastic riding academy inhabited by mechanical horses, elephants and parts of ships and the assortment of remarkable and strictly story-book characters who seek a dubious escape there.

At any rate, Madison is about the only practical one of the lot. In love with Miss Lynn, he finally keeps her nearby by getting her a job in the Gaboolian emporium and then buying it for her. A screwy Christmas Eve party offers opportunities to capture newspaper attention which, in turn, induces the Cheever gals to take over. With the proceeds, Madison and Miss Lynn return to Texas to raise a family and horses on the ranch of their dreams.

Best professional performances come from Miss Bates as the regenerated pickpocket, and Michael Chekhov as the impractical Gaboolian. Supporting roles are in the hands of such old reliables as Clem Bevans, Roscoe Karns, Lionel Stander, William Frawley and Tom Dugan. Audie Murphy, in a bit, plays a newspaper copy boy.

The highlight is a funny scene in which the mechanical devices get out of hand. In a theatre and before an audience, the sequence ought to be a roar. William Castle directed for producer Robert S. Golden with Lewis J. Rachmil as his associate. Lewis Meltzer wrote the screenplay.

Running time, 76 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, July 16. RED KANN

DESERT (Rep.)—RKO MEMORIAL (3,000) (40c-80c). Gross: \$2,750. 1 day
OCTOBER MAN (EL) and **VACATION FROM MARRIAGE (M-G-M)**—EXETER (1,300) (44c-75c). Gross: \$4,000. (Average: \$5,000)

THE FULLER BRUSH MAN (Col.) and **ADVENTURES IN SILVERADO (Col.)**—STATE (3,000) (40c-80c). Gross: \$10,000. (Average: \$12,000). 6 days.
THE FULLER BRUSH MAN (Col.) and **ADVENTURES IN SILVERADO (Col.)**—ORPHEUM (3,000) (40c-80c). Gross: \$20,000. (Average: \$27,000). 6 days.
THE MATING OF MILLIE (Col.) and **THE STRAWBERRY ROAN (Col.)**—RKO BOSTON (3,200) (40c-80c). Gross: \$7,000.
UP IN CENTRAL PARK (U-I) and **STAGE STRUCK (Mono.)**—RKO MEMORIAL (3,000) (40c-80c). Gross: \$13,500. (Average: \$22,000). 6 days.

BUFFALO

Hot weather continues unabated here. "Emperor Waltz" held up fairly well in a second week at the Great Lakes. Estimated receipts for the week ending July 17:

BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—TWENTIETH CENTURY (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: \$11,400. (Average: \$13,000)
THE EMPEROR WALTZ (Para.)—GREAT LAKES (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: \$15,000. (Average: \$17,000)
LITTLE TOUGH GUY (U-I) and **LITTLE TOUGH GUYS IN SOCIETY (U-I)**—TECK (1,500) (40c-50c-60c-70c) Reissues. Gross: \$3,300. (Average: \$4,000)
ON AN ISLAND WITH YOU (M-G-M) and **SECRET SERVICE INVESTIGATOR (Rep.)**—HIPPODROME (2,100) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 2nd week, on a moveover. Gross: \$8,000. (Average: \$10,000)
THE STREET WITH NO NAME (20th-Fox) and **MADONNA OF THE DESERT (Rep.)**—BUFFALO (3,489) (40c-50c-60c-70c). Gross: \$14,100. (Average: \$18,000)

MINNEAPOLIS

Despite extreme heat, in its second week, theatre business began to show a general improvement. Estimated grosses for the week ending July 15:

BLACK BART (U-I)—STATE (2,300) (50c-70c). Gross: \$10,500. (Average: \$10,500)
HATTER'S CASTLE (Para.)—CENTURY (1,500) (50c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: \$8,000. (Average: \$5,500)
SIN TOWN and **RIO (Realart Reissues)**—

Schary to M-G-M

(Continued from page 1)

included Mayer, E. J. Mannix, and Ben Thau. It is understood that Schary's new post will vest in him authority comparable only to that exercised by the late Irving G. Thalberg and by no other Metro studio executive except Mayer since Thalberg's death.

It is reported Schary's pact entitles him to participate in company earnings.

Schary, who recently resigned as vice-president in charge of production at RKO Radio after policy differences with Howard Hughes, new controlling factor in that company, now returns to the studio where he worked eight of his 15 years in production as writer, producer and executive. Prior to his RKO affiliation, which began in January, 1947, and terminated on June 30, 1948, he was a producer for Vanguard.

In a formal statement, he said in part: "I offer my associates a program of work dedicated to the production of good films about a good world."

4 RKO Films

(Continued from page 1)

Be Married" and "Baltimore Escapade" are top-budget features still shooting. "Stagecoach Kid," a Western starring Tim Holt, will be first of the smaller budget films and is to start July 26.

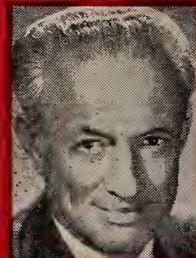
GOPHER (1,000) (44c-50c). Gross: \$3,400. (Average: \$3,200)
THE EMPEROR WALTZ (Para.)—RADIO CITY (4,000) (50c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: \$12,000. (Average: \$16,000)
THE FULLER BRUSH MAN (Col.)—RKO PAX (1,500) (50c-70c) 4th week. Gross: \$7,500. (Average: \$8,000)
THE LADY FROM SHANGHAI (Col.)—LYRIC (1,100) (50c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: \$4,800. (Average: \$5,000)
UP IN CENTRAL PARK (U-I)—RKO ORPHEUM (2,800) (50c-70c). Gross: \$12,500. (Average: \$12,500)

BOB O'DONNELL

ONE OF THE NATION'S
GREATEST EXHIBITOR—
SHOWMEN,

Says

"THE
BEST
AND
MOST EXCITING
DOCUMENTARY I
HAVE EVER SEEN!"



ALL REVIEWS
SENSATIONAL!

"Better than 'Brute Force,' 'Naked City' and 'The Killers'."

—Bill Hollman, N. Y. Enquirer

"More exciting than a headline... has 'Brute Force' wallop."

—Eskine Johnson,
National Columnist

"Ranks with best... crammed with thrills... exploitation possibilities unlimited."

—Harrison's Reports

"Red hot right off the press... thrill packed screen entertainment."

—Boxoffice

"One of best-made most effective 'crime-does-not-pay' pictures in a long time."

—Motion Picture Herald

"Should pay off handsomely at turnstiles!"

—Daily Variety

"Straight from page one headlines... packs terrific punch."

—Film Daily

"Eagle Lion has a winner!"

—Variety

"'Canon City' brilliant... told with wallop!"

—Hollywood Reporter

"Plenty of opportunities to cash in!"

—The Exhibitor

"Showmanship... action... authenticity—one of the best!"

—Motion Picture Daily

NEWS FLASH!

"CANON CITY"
SENSATIONAL
... NEW YORK, DENVER,
CANON CITY PREMIERES!



It's five o'clock, Tuesday, December 30, 1947.

The people of Canon City, Colorado, are preparing for another quiet winter evening. Snow is just beginning to fall. Dusk almost hides the grim silhouette of the State Penitentiary on the edge of town.

Suddenly it happens!

A siren screams—then another—and another—shattering the air itself with their terrifying wails.

Twelve desperate convicts—murderers, kidnappers—armed with crude shotguns, clubs and knives have battered their blood-mad way to freedom in the most spectacular jailbreak of our time!

Dragging as hostages four brutally beaten guards, they force their frenzied way into homes at gun point.

Thus began in Canon City a three day reign of terror that startled the nation with screaming headlines from coast-to-coast... a reign of terror broken only when the town fought back!

This Is Not Fiction...THIS IS THE NAKED FURY OF FACT!

II

Now You Can See It On The Screen...

Canon City

Filmed The Way It Happened!

An EAGLE LION FILMS Picture

Introducing SCOTT BRADY with Jeff Corey · Whit Bissell · Stanley Clements · Charles Russell · DeForest Kelley · Ralph Byrd · Mabel Paige and Warden Roy Best, himself · A Bryan Foy Production Produced by Robert T. Kane Written and Directed by Crane Wilbur

Rank Yields

(Continued from page 1)

cutions whenever exhibitors fail to fulfill the quota.

Rank pledged, in effect, a considerable shakeup of all GFD practices, which is regarded as a major triumph for the exhibitors, following three years of agitation. He declared flatly that British pictures on the average "take more money at the boxoffice than Hollywood pictures whenever they are given continuity of playing time." However, following his address, the CEA did not permit him to rest on that score. Several delegates assured him that his pictures result in losses. One owner produced certified accounts revealing 71 Rank bookings as yielding 2,000 pounds (\$8,000) for GFD, but a loss to him of 400 pounds (\$1,600).

Calls Quota Embargo 'Insurance'

Rank defended the new 45 per cent quota on the ground that it is, for one thing, insurance against possible future film embargoes such as was levied by U. S. distributors following the imposition a year ago of the British government's *ad valorem* tax. "The next time it might be a complete embargo," he said, adding that that "is an impossible position for any business to be in."

He appealed to the CEA members' national pride in urging them to buy British pictures and thus build up the native film industry. He told them their "one sure shield" is a "sound British production industry, on which exhibitors can rely for a continuous flow of good pictures." British pro-

ducers, he said, "need to feel that they have exhibitors behind them, and exhibitors should feel that the producers realize their great responsibility to them and to their patrons."

Rank said he is hoping that Motion Picture Association of America president Eric Johnston will pursue his suggestion that an Anglo-American joint committee study dollar and film exchange problems. The proposed committee's potential usefulness has not diminished, he added.

'Unseen Quota' by U. S.

During the *ad valorem* tax deadlock, Rank maintained, an "unseen quota" was exercised by U. S. exhibitors against British films, it being what he described as "the expression of a natural resentment against their revenues from England being cut, and on a short view was quite understandable."

It was agreed Rank's proposed "Gestapo," or probe of theatre programs all over the country in order to prove that the quota can be met, will not be pursued, and the general council is demanding that Rank disown BFPA chief Sir Henry French's announcement of such a probe.

First feature quota obligations can be met by the 1,000 houses in the three top circuits and by approximately 1,500 theatres which are in situations where there are not more than two houses, Rank maintained.

Notwithstanding the quota, "we all want American films," he said. "When we are playing the 45 per cent quota we shall have the best of the American pictures to choose from for the remaining 55 per cent," he stated. "And magnificent the very best undoubtedly are. None of us would have liked to have missed 'The Best Years

of Our Lives' which has had so great a success. Pictures like this are always welcome here. Pictures like this are not affected by the quota. There will be room here for all of the best American pictures—but few of us will complain if we do not see so many of the Hollywood lesser pictures which have brought little money to our box-offices. They have, moreover, brought little credit to their producers, and may well have done damage to the Hollywood industry as a whole."

Rank Arbitration

(Continued from page 1)

controlled company distributing British films, an exhibitor chosen by GFD, and the third to be an exhibitor chosen by the other two members of the tribunal. GFD, he said, will agree to be bound by the decisions of the tribunal.

"I realize," the British industry leader said, "this could only be an experiment but I shall be very happy to give it a trial if the council approves the idea. I do not myself think the tribunal will be called into existence very often, and I hope it will not."

Majors To Inform US

(Continued from page 1)

Wright know when they expect answers to acceptable questions to be ready for submission, and the Department of Justice will be governed accordingly in the granting of additional time for filing. The "Big Five" will also notify Wright when objections will be ready to questions which they consider unjustified.

AFM Calls Parley

(Continued from page 1)

sible for the AFM negotiators to attend conveniently the AFM board meeting which is scheduled to be held in that city early in August. In prior years negotiations between the AFM and the producers' committee were held in either New York or Hollywood, both of those locations being more convenient for the committee which is made up of top studio executives.

The union refuses to discuss the specific demands it intends to make this year. MOTION PICTURE DAILY reported on June 8 that delegates to the AFM convention in Asbury Park, N. J., at that time interpreted remarks made by Petrillo during the reading of his annual report to mean that substantial wage increases will be sought for studio musicians.

Monopoly Probe

(Continued from page 1)

industry; indicate suggestions for remedying each of these problems; do anti-trust laws need strengthening, and if so, how; does any Federal law or regulation restrain fair competition in your industry; does any state law or municipal ordinance or law restrain fair competition in your industry?

Committee chairman Plosser has stated: "We will definitely go into films, both from the point of view of the exhibitor and the independent producer."

Both Allied States and the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers have pledged their support to the committee.

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ALFRED HITCHCOCK'S ROPE

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**MOTION PICTURE
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Accurate
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64. NO. 11

NEW YORK, U.S.A., FRIDAY, JULY 16, 1948

TEN CENTS

Lobby Telecast Pickups Will Be Challenged

All 'Unauthorized' Public Video Shows Questioned

Television's move for injunctions restraining "unauthorized" pickups of its material by theatres, hotels, taverns, and other commercial places charging admission or other considerations, is said by telecasters here to be definitely approaching top-level court stages.

Video industry attorneys are thinking not only in terms of stopping unauthorized large-screen reproductions, but are leveling their sights on small receivers in theatre lobbies and lounges as well. And they believe they have an assortment of precedents.

Indexed and earmarked for anticipated early legal use are U. S. Supreme Court and various Federal

(Continued on page 3)

Slate St. Louis AAA Suit for High Court

ST. LOUIS, July 15.—The anti-trust suit brought by St. Louis Amusement and Fanchon and Marco Service Corp. against the American Arbitration Association, which was dismissed on July 8 in U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals here, will be taken to the U. S. Supreme Court, Harry C. Arthur, St. Louis Amusement president, said today.

The appeal, Arthur said, will claim that the lower Federal courts in dismissing the suit have upheld compulsory arbitration and that recent Supreme Court rulings only validate voluntary arbitration.

Appellate Judge Harvey Johnson's

(Continued on page 3)

Glenn McCarthy Will Make Three Yearly

Glenn McCarthy Productions plans to make three pictures annually, budgeted at around \$800,000 each, Robert Paige, co-producer, disclosed here yesterday.

The new independent company, which has headquarters at the Goldwyn studio in Hollywood, will start with "The Green Promise," set for

(Continued on page 3)

Restricted Imports Basis for Deal on Dollars in France

American distributors will have to retain their self-imposed limitation on motion picture imports into France in order to make a deal with the French government on their frozen funds, it is disclosed here in a cable received by the Motion Picture Association of America's international division, from Gerald Mayer, division head, who is in France trying to negotiate a settlement of the dollar exchange stalemate.

This voluntary total last year amounted to 125 pictures, but independent producers shipped in many more, resulting in what the French called a "flooding of the market." Subsequently, they proposed an alteration in the terms of the Blum-Byrnes accord to increase the playing time for French

(Continued on page 3)

UK Studio Financing Report Due Shortly

LONDON, July 15.—British Board of Trade president Harold Wilson reiterated in the House of Commons today that he is persevering in endeavors to remove financial obstacles to putting Britain's studios to their fullest use. He said he hoped to make a more definite statement next week.

He was reminded by Commons members that Teddington Studios have been closed for want of a tenant, resulting in the discharge of 132 employees.

Urges Producers Adhere To Film Production Code

IMPPA, SAG Agree On Players' Contract

Hollywood, July 15.—Agreement has been reached between the Independent Motion Picture Producers Association and the Screen Actors Guild on a new contract, reportedly identical in major features with that signed a week ago by the AMPP-SIMPP groups and SAG, but carrying over into effect special concessions granted a year ago to producers of small-budget films. The IMPPA membership will meet next Wednesday to approve the agreement officially.

Schary Could Quit If Mayer Leaves

Hollywood, July 15.—Dore Schary's contract with M-G-M is understood to include a clause, suggested by him, under which his pact would be cancelled automatically if Louis B. Mayer should withdraw from the company while the agreement is in effect.

While the contract, which reputedly runs seven years, is in immediate effect, Schary actually will not assume his new post as vice-president in charge of production until August 9. Meanwhile, he will vacation.

20th's New Program Up at Canadian Meet

Andy W. Smith, Jr., general sales manager of 20th Century-Fox, will announce the company's 1948-49 feature program at a one-day convention of the Canadian sales organization at the Royal York Hotel, Toronto, next Thursday.

Smith will preside at the session which will be attended by president Spyros P. Skouras and home office executives W. C. Gehring, assistant general sales manager; Charles Schlaffer, director of advertising-publicity; Martin Moskowitz, executive assistant to Smith; Peter Levathes, short subjects sales manager; Clarence A. Hill,

(Continued on page 3)

Discuss Joint Control of British Sales

MPEA Would Supervise Overall Policy - Making

As a means of combatting the new 45 per cent British exhibition quota, American film company executives have considered, but have yet to act upon, a Motion Picture Export Association control over selling policies in England.

Under the system considered, the industry would be united in its dealings with the British, strengthening its position, but each company would still be free to sell independently of each other; that is, on a competitive basis, but in accord with an overall policy.

The idea has not as yet gone beyond the discussion stage, but if no agreement is reached between the British and the U. S., in all likelihood it will be considered at the next MPEA meet.

Earlier reports had it that the companies were thinking in terms of an MPEA service organization.

New 8-Year Deal for Screen Directors

HOLLYWOOD, July 15.—Negotiating committee of the Association of Motion Picture Producers and the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers has approved a new eight-year contract with the Screen Directors Guild replacing the nine-year pact which recently expired. New contract, which may be reopened at two-year intervals, gives directors a 100 per cent guild shop, increased credit recognition in advertising matter, added control over film cutting, and sets up round-table procedure under which guild and producer committees shall confer at any time on problems confronting either. No increase in wage scales was involved.

Para. Publicists Get Pay Increases

Wage increases ranging up to \$20 have been won by the Screen Publicists Guild for Paramount home office publicists in an award handed down by the American Arbitration Association, it was announced here yesterday by the SPG. Increases will be retroactive to Sept. 27, 1947.

The Paramount award follows the

(Continued on page 3)

RKORadioSouthern Meeting on Monday

NEW ORLEANS, July 15.—Sales executives of RKO Radio from the South, as well as the company's home office, will converge on this city over the weekend to participate in the third of a series of zonal business and sales meetings, which will open on Monday.

The conference, under the direction of Robert Mochrie, distribution vice-president, will review the company's product schedule and hear announcements of winners in the Ned Depinet drive.

The meetings will be attended by North-South division manager Charles Boasberg; Carl Peppercorn, his assistant; A. A. Schubart, manager of exchange operations; Sid Kramer; district chiefs David Prince and Ben Cammack; and branch managers H. M. Lyons, Atlanta; R. F. Branon, Charlotte; J. R. Lamantia, New Orleans; Sol Sachs, Dallas; R. V. Reagan, Memphis; Ralph Williams, Oklahoma City.

Milton E. Cohen Is Feted in Cleveland

CLEVELAND, July 15. — Industry members from Cleveland, Detroit and Cincinnati gathered here at the Statler Hotel this week in honor of Milton E. Cohen, former RKO Radio district manager and now Eagle-Lion division manager. A delegation of 35 came from Detroit where Cohen spent nine years as RKO Radio salesman and branch manager. Lester Zucker, U-I branch manager, was master of ceremonies.

Berish To Book for Trenton-N.Brunswick

Archie Berish will become head booker for Trenton-New Brunswick Theatres, Inc., RKO-Walter Reade operation, early in September, when he will resign a similar post with Warner in New York. He will make his offices here. Berish has been with WB for 20 years.

Succeeding Berish at WB will be Peter Saglumbini, booker for the company here.

Robert J. O'Donnell Wed in New Orleans

NEW ORLEANS, July 15.—Robert J. O'Donnell, general manager of Interstate Circuit of Texas, international chief barker of Variety Clubs and one of the best-known showmen in the U. S., was married today to Mrs. Vinnie Pierson Decasasus at the Roosevelt Hotel here.

Frederick Mercy, 71, Dead in Washington

PORTLAND, Ore., July 15.—Frederick Mercy, 71, of Yakima, Wash., theatre owner and financier, died at his home following a year's illness. Since 1912 he operated Yakima's Majestic Theatres, opening upwards of 20 theatres in Yakima Valley. Three sons will operate the Mercy houses.

Personal Mention

CHARLES M. REAGAN, Paramount distribution vice-president, and HUGH OWEN, Eastern and Southern divisional sales manager, are due back in New York over the weekend from New Orleans.

JIM PARTLOW, with Universal-International in Atlanta for the past year, and LEONARD ANDREWS, special home office representative, have resigned to enter the drive-in field in Florida.

GEORGE ORNSTEIN, United Artists special representative in Rome, and MRS. ORNSTEIN became parents of a son, born yesterday in Switzerland. MARY PICKFORD, who is MRS. ORNSTEIN's aunt, is visiting them.

AL HORWITS, Universal-International Eastern publicity manager, and CHARLES SIMONELLI, Eastern exploitation manager, returned here yesterday from Philadelphia.

DICK CONLEY, Fox Intermountain Theatres city manager in La Junta, Colo., has been elected president of the La Junta Junior Chamber of Commerce.

CEDRIC FRANCIS, assistant to Warner short subjects head GORDON HOLINGSHEAD, has left here for San Francisco.

ED HINCHY, head of the Warner home office playdate department, left here yesterday for Albany, N. Y. He is due back on Monday.

C. J. FELDMAN, Universal-International Western division sales manager, returned to New York yesterday from a Midwest tour.

J. MAXWELL JOICE, Paramount representative in Baltimore and Washington, is recovering from a leg operation in a Washington hospital.

WILLIAM F. RODGERS, M-G-M distribution vice-president, will leave here next Thursday for Chicago.

DICK COLBERT of the Universal-International staff in Salt Lake City has been transferred to San Francisco.

KMTA Meeting Date Advanced to Sept.

KANSAS CITY, July 15.—Kansas-Missouri Theatre Association's annual convention has been advanced to September 28-29 from October 5-6, it was voted here today at a board of directors meeting, in order to make more convenient the attendance of Theatre Owners of America officers. The KMTA convention will be held a few days after the TOA convention in Chicago.

Various committees appointed for the KMTA meeting also met today to get started on plans. Senn Lawler outlined the plans and program of the area representatives on "Youth Month" and materials are being prepared for distribution to theatremen.

FRED C. QUIMBY, head of M-G-M short subject production, is due here Monday from the Coast.

WILLIAM COOVERT, former manager of the El Camino Theatre in San Bruno, Cal., has been named city manager of United California Theatres, succeeding REX STEVENSON, resigned. He will take over his new post July 15.

BERRY GREENBERG, special Far Eastern sales representative for Samuel Goldwyn Productions and Walt Disney Productions, is en route back to the Orient from New York.

HOMER PALMER of Palmer Picture Corp., Montreal, escaped uninjured when his plane was damaged in a forced landing on a farm near Ontario.

HARRY NESTLER, Interboro Circuit theatre manager here for the past 10 years, has purchased the Florence Theatre building at Florence, N. J., from MARTIN FISCHBEIN.

VAN P. GARRISON, formerly Merced district manager, has been named manager of the East Bay district for United California Theatres following the resignation of DAVID BOLTON.

A. G. ALEXANDER, former head of the Wil-Kin Theatre Supply Co., Atlanta, has been named head of the purchasing department, replacing CHARLIE MOORE, resigned.

WILLIAM YOUNGCLAUS, owner of the Island Theatre at Grand Island, Neb., has returned to Nebraska after two and a half years in California and has purchased a home in Nebraska.

EDDIE FOSTER, former Republic sales representative in Atlanta, has taken over the new Drive-In Theatre at Knoxville, Tenn.

OSCAR A. DOOB, Loew general theatre executive, is due here Monday from a vacation in Wisconsin.

J. W. PACE, exhibitor of Delta, Utah, will seek the Democratic nomination for state auditor.

Sliter Named Zone Manager for Schine

ALBANY, N.Y., July 15.—Harold Sliter has been named a Schine circuit zone manager with headquarters in Lexington, Ky., succeeding Lou Hensler, who resigned to enter another business. Sliter, one-time publicity director for Schine and later a district manager in Ohio, recently has been acting zone manager in Northern New York. His son, Fred Sliter, is a 20th Century-Fox salesman here.

Projectionist Burned

BOSTON, July 15.—Frank Hill, Apollo Theatre projectionist, was critically burned when film in the booth ignited. A hundred patrons had to evacuate the balcony.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
BING CROSBY JOAN FONTAINE
in "THE EMPEROR WALTZ"
Color by TECHNICOLOR
A Paramount Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

JEAN ARTHUR MARLENE DIETRICH JOHN LUND
in Person JO STAFFORD
plus GEORGE RAFT - THE LANE BROTHERS
Extra SAM DONAHUE
And His Orchestra
"A Foreign Affair"
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE MIDNIGHT FEATS NIGHTLY

JOHN FORD'S MASTERPIECE
"FORT APACHE"
IN PERSON LENA HORNE
Special! PAUL WINCHELL
Extra! SKINNAY ENNIS
and his ORCH.
COOL CAPITOL B'way & 51st St.

Walt Disney's greatest star-and-song-show!
"MELODY TIME"
COLOR BY TECHNICOLOR!
Released thru RKO Radio Pictures
ASTOR B'way & 45th St.

Cast of 10,000 in Cecil B. DeMille's
"THE CRUSADES"
with Loretta Young • Henry Wilcoxon
A PARAMOUNT RE-RELEASE
Scientifically Air Conditioned
RIVOLI Doors Open 9:30 A.M.
8 w'ay & 49th St.

MARK STEVENS • RICHARD WIDMARK
"THE STREET WITH NO NAME"
A 20th Century-Fox Picture
ON VARIETY STAGE—CAB CALLOWAY
JACKIE MILES • VIVIAN BLAINE
ON ICE STAGE—CAROL LYNE
ARNOLD SHODA • THE BRUISES
ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

OLD LOS ANGELES
Starring William Elliott • John Carroll
Catherine McLeod
Joseph Schildkraut
A Republic Picture
NOW PLAYING!
Brandt's Cool GOTHAM B'way & 47th St.

Two from 'U' Get Off to New Highs

"Tap Roots" and "Abbott and Costello Meet Frankenstein" are establishing new opening highs for its recent releases, Universal reported yesterday.

At the Goldman, Philadelphia, it is understood "Tap Roots" opened to \$4,321, compared with \$3,263 for "Canyon Passage" at the Stanley with 1,800 more seats. Other "Tap Roots" comparisons are: Hollywood, Atlantic City, \$2,646, against \$1,451 for "The Egg and I"; Astor, Reading, Pa., \$2,168, against \$1,417 for "Egg"; College, Bethlehem, Pa.; \$885, against \$752; Surf, Ocean City, N. J.; \$1,950 and \$1,593; Shore, Wildwood, N. J., \$2,339 and \$1,220.

The Abbott and Costello picture opened at the Strand, Albany, to \$2,015 comparing with \$1,826 for "Canyon Passage" and to \$2,047 at the Paramount, Syracuse, N. Y., against \$1,971 for "Slave Girl" and \$1,808 for "Naked City."

Warner's 100 - City 'Key Largo' Campaign

Warner's home office advertising-publicity department has completed arrangements to launch "Key Largo" in 100 cities in Florida for a total of over 200 simultaneous playdates during the week of July 22.

Rogers Aid Meet Set

ALBANY, N. Y., July 15.—Plans by the Albany exchange district in its drive to raise \$10,000 to aid the Will Rogers Memorial Hospital at Saranac Lake, will be charted at a dinner here Monday evening, Ray Smith, Warner branch manager and general chairman of the area's drive, has announced. Charles A. Smakwitz, Warner acting zone manager, is chairman of the drive's theatre committee.

\$30,000 for 'Canon'

Eagle-Lion's "Canon City" grossed more than \$30,000 in its first week at the Criterion Theatre here, William J. Heineman, distribution vice-president reported here yesterday. He also listed \$25,000 for a first week in Denver.

Jap Lessees Win Return of Theatre

Stockton, Cal., July 15.—Upholding a ruling by a lower court, the California Supreme Court has ordered Emil Palmero, owner of the Star Theatre property, to return the theatre to a corporation in which Japanese are major stockholders. Palmero filed suit for declaratory relief in 1944 against Stockton Theatres, Inc., to whom he had leased the property in 1930 for 10 years with a 10-year renewal option. Palmero's suit was based on alleged violation of the Alien Land law.

McCarthy To Make 3

(Continued from page 1)

August 15. Next will be "You Can't Do That," which is expected to be put into production on November 1.

McCarthy, Houston oil man and industrialist, is president of the company and its principal stockholder. Associated with him besides Paige, who will also have a role in "The Green Promise," is Monty Collins. The company is wholly financed by McCarthy.

Paige is in town on an air tour of the nation in search of a 4-H Club member to play a major feminine role in "The Green Promise." The actor-producer will resume his tour this morning when he flies to Concord, N. H. He is due back on the Coast on July 23.

20th's New Program

(Continued from page 1)

manager of branch operations; Frank Carroll, Roger Ferri, and Jack Bloom.

The Canadian contingent will include Arthur Silverstone, Canadian division manager, and the following branch managers: V. M. Skorey, Calgary; Edward English, Montreal; R. G. March, St. John; H. J. Bailey, Toronto; J. E. Patterson, Vancouver, and J. H. Huber, Winnipeg; also exploitation representative Sam Glasier and Toronto salesmen and bookers.

Censorship Position Is Unfixed; Cannella

John M. Cannella, New York City's new commissioner of licenses, has no fixed ideas on theatre censorship, he declares. He succeeds Benjamin Fielding, who has joined Lpew's here as an executive. During his term the latter directed city-sponsored campaigns against "indecent" film advertising.

Cannella has asserted, however, that he knew he was taking a post "with a lot of headaches."

Kollmyer to China for WE

William E. Kollmyer of the headquarters staff of Westrex Corp. in New York has been assigned to take charge of operations in China of Western Electric. He left New York yesterday stopping en route in Hollywood to review developments in studio production. He will then fly to Sydney to supervise installation of recording equipment at the Commonwealth and Fox Movietone News studios.

Lobby Pickups

(Continued from page 1)

Court opinions, most prominent among them the ruling by Justice Holmes in the 1917 case of Victor Herbert vs. the Shanley Co., giving the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers the right to collect fees for public use of its members' music.

Television lawyers believe that the Holmes opinion is as clear as it is succinct in declaring illegal the use of television receivers in any part of a theatre despite the fact that no special admission charge is levied nor is the regular admission for the film program increased. This, too, applies to video-equipped taverns and all other places of public assembly, they hold.

Opinion by Justice Holmes

Herbert brought action against the Shanley Co. contending the latter used the plaintiff's music in its New York restaurant without permission. Agreeing with Herbert, Justice Holmes wrote, in part:

"It is true that the music is not the sole object but neither is the food which probably could be got cheaper elsewhere. The object is a repast in surroundings that to people having limited powers of conversation or disliking the rival noise give a luxurious pleasure not to be had from eating a silent meal. If music did not pay it would be given up. If it pays, it pays out of the public's pocket. Whether it pays or not the purpose of employing it is profit and that is enough."

Apply Phraseology to Video

The telecasters' legal experts intend to substitute television for music and obtain affirmation by the courts, holding that theatres use television sets with profit in mind, profit in that television in a lobby or lounge is an added inducement to the paying customers.

Another case likely to be offered as a precedent was that in which Associated Press won a permanent injunction preventing Station KVOS, Seattle, from broadcasting AP news.

New Video Permit For Allen DuMont

WASHINGTON, July 15.—The Federal Communications Commission has granted Allen B. DuMont Laboratories permission to build a new experimental television relay station at Oxford, Conn.

FWC Acquires Video Site

MILL VALLEY, Cal., July 15.—One-year option for a 30-year lease has been acquired by Fox West Coast Theatres on a one-and-a-half acre site for a television station on top of Mount Tamalpais.

St. Louis AAA Suit

(Continued from page 1)

opinion has been described as paralleling the U. S. Supreme Court's recent ruling that the AAA is a valid and legal system of regulation. Johnson said he delayed his ruling pending the Supreme Court decision.

Para. Publicists

(Continued from page 1)

same pattern set at Warner, 20th Century-Fox, RKO Radio and Eagle-Lion. The E-L negotiations were settled without arbitration, however.

Impartial arbitrator in the Paramount case was Dr. Milton Handler of Columbia University.

Broidy to Montreal Studio Conferences

MONTREAL, July 15.—Steve Broidy, president of Allied Artists and Monogram, is due here from New York on Sunday for production conferences at the new Renaissance Films Studio as well as talks with Joseph Than and Leonard H. Fields, executive producers of Canadian International Screen Productions. The latter company has contracted to deliver 10 features to Allied Artists-Monogram in the next two years. J. A. DeSeve is president of the studio.

Dollars in France

(Continued from page 1)

films from four to seven weeks each quarter.

Little progress has been made in the negotiations looking towards the unfreezing of the considerable American earnings now accrued to the industry in France, Mayer reported. Several French suggestions have been turned down. The MPAA executive's report was said not to have contained any reference to a recent French proposal to limit the importation of all foreign pictures to 196 a year. Of this total, a little more than 100 would be American. The French also are said to have proposed the setting aside of specific funds for the major companies and the independents, thus setting up an indirect quota system.

Only a few weeks ago, the French assembly refused to discuss a confiscatory 25 per cent tax on foreign film imports and postponed consideration on a footage tax and an increase in French admission prices.

\$2 - Million Showcase For Rank in Toronto

TORONTO, July 15.—The \$2,000,000 Carlton, under construction for two years, will open on September 9 as Arthur Rank's showcase in Toronto, it is announced by Odeon Theatres of Canada. W. C. Tyers, formerly of the Capitol, Niagara Falls, Ont., will manage.

New Post for Oldfield

WASHINGTON, July 15.—Major Barney Oldfield, assistant to Major-General Floyd L. Parks, chief of the Army's public information division here, will check out of the Pentagon on Monday for a new assignment in the Command and General Staff School class starting in September at Fort Leavenworth, Kan. He was film editor of the *Nebraska State Journal* in Lincoln and *Motion Picture Daily's* Nebraska correspondent before the war, was with Warner on the Coast after the war and rejoined the Army last August.

New Thompson Account

Sam Coslow-Noel Clarke Productions, now preparing "Music City," soon to go before the cameras for United Artists release, has retained J. Walter Thompson Co. to prepare a national advertising campaign. An unusual aspect of the campaign calls for the agency to sit in on all phases of production to assure top exploitation values.

Del Ruth Buys

HOLLYWOOD, July 15. — Producer-director Roy Del Ruth has purchased "Bright Is the Sun," original by Mason Bean, and has scheduled it for 1949 as a William Bendix vehicle.

OF COURSE

you'll make money with...

"TEXAS, BROOKLYN and HEAVEN"

sent from UA

THE VIRGINIAN
50th STREET JUST WEST OF 6th AVENUE
AMERICA'S FAVORITE FOODS
"Around The Clock"

Look
Movie Review

"So Evil



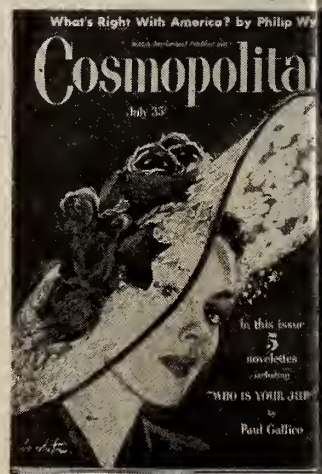
NOW
Look
STARTS THE WAVE OF
MAGAZINE RAVES FOR
ANOTHER GREAT
**PARAMOUNT
HIT-WAVE HIT**

with this exciting two-and-a-half
page feature in the July 20 issue,
on the newsstands now, imme-
diately preceding first key dates

And In Current

*Get these issues now and
blow up for lobby display!*

WATCH FOR MORE TOP BREAKS
that we're not allowed to tell
you about right now . . .



My Love"

A TRUE STORY of gaslit crime and passion is vividly reconstructed in Hal Wallis' *So Evil My Love*. Boasting a prize-caliber performance by Ann Todd, ably backed by Ray Milland and Geraldine Fitzgerald, this new Paramount film ranks high among melodramas.

Victorian court records supplied the plot, from the case of a missionary's widow whose love for a charming scoundrel led her to blackmail and murder. It was turned into a novel in

1947 by "Joseph Shearing," one of several names under which 61-year-old Mrs. Gabrielle Long has written 140-odd books, among them *Moss Rose* and *Blanche Fury*.

Following the current trend of filming stories in actual locales, Wallis took his stars and Director Lewis Allen to England to make *So Evil*. London landmarks and a supporting cast of excellent players give an authentic atmosphere to a handsome romantic thriller.



1 London-bound from Jamaica after the death of her missionary husband, Olivia Harwood nurses a malaria victim, artist Mark Bellis (Ray Milland).



2 Olivia rents Mark a room in her quiet home, unaware that he wants to hide from the police. He overcomes her shyness and professes love for her.



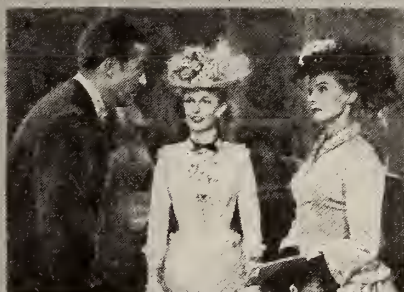
3 Mark's return to his real "profession," theft of art treasures, fails. He tells Olivia, who now loves him, he has no money, must leave England.



4 To get funds for Mark, Olivia visits an old school friend, Susan Courtney (Geraldine Fitzgerald), unhappy wife of a wealthy prospective peer.



5 Olivia is hired by Henry Courtney (Raymond Huntley) as his wife's companion. When he has a heart attack, she helps him with a Jamaican drug.



6 Directed by Mark, Olivia helps Susan resume an extra-marital affair about which she wrote Olivia. Mark plans to blackmail Henry and the man. (Continued on next page)

SO EVIL MY LOVE continued



7 Informed that bonds Susan owned were sold, Henry finds she gave them to Olivia. He arranges to send Susan to a sanitarium, orders Olivia to leave. She returns to sell Henry Susan's letters.



8 Henry swaps a record of Mark's crimes for the letters, then tells her it's a copy. They struggle and he collapses.



9 Hysterical, Susan wishes Henry dead. Olivia, who has poisoned the Jamaican drug, gets Susan to "save" him with it.



10 "Heart failure was not the cause of death." The doctor's report terrifies Olivia. Although she burned the letters and the dossier on Mark (see page 88), her murder guilt may still be exposed.



11 Mark leaves for Paris, but forces Olivia to stay with Susan to avoid suspicion of the murder. Susan is convicted, but saved from hanging in an ironical ending that takes care of the evildoers.

END

Louella Parsons Picks It As Her Picture of the Month...

RAY MILLAND • ANN TODD • GERALDINE FITZGERALD
in HAL WALLIS' production
"So Evil My Love"
with Leo G. Carroll • Raymond Huntley • Martita Hunt
Raymond Lovell • Moira Lister • Roderick Lovell
Directed by LEWIS ALLEN • Screenplay by Leonard Spigelgass and Ronald Millar

and says: "It will put you through an emotional wringer. A superior, extraordinary thriller . . . earns your applause . . . for being the best production released this July. I salute this fine piece of work."

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY correspondents. Estimates omit admission tax.

LOS ANGELES

Appropriately titled, "Summer Holiday" was about the only attraction substantially overcoming the counter-influence of weekend weather, which took 1,000,000 to the beaches on Sunday. Estimated receipts for the week ended July 14:

DREAM GIRL (Para.) and **SECRET SERVICE INVESTIGATOR (Rep.)**—PARAMOUNT (Downtown) (3,595) (50c-60c-80c-1.00). Gross: \$15,500. (Average: \$16,450)
DREAM GIRL (Para.)—PARAMOUNT (Hollywood) (1,407) (50c-60c-80c-1.00). Gross: \$11,500. (Average: \$13,000)
THE FULLER BRUSH MAN (Col.) and **THUNDERHOOF (Col.)**—HILLSTREET (2,700) (50c-60c-80c-1.00) 4th week. Gross: \$11,500. (Average: \$18,950)
THE FULLER BRUSH MAN (Col.) and **THUNDERHOOF (Col.)**—PANTAGES (2,000) (50c-60c-80c-1.00) 4th week. Gross: \$11,500. (Average: \$17,150)
RIVER LADY (U-I) and **WHO KILLED DOC ROBBIN? (UA-Roach)**—GUILD (965) (50c-60c-80c-1.00). Gross: \$5,500. (Average: \$5,450)
RIVER LADY (U-I) and **WHO KILLED DOC ROBBIN? (UA-Roach)**—IRIS (708) (50c-60c-80c-1.00). Gross: \$5,000. (Average: \$6,100)
RIVER LADY (U-I) and **WHO KILLED DOC ROBBIN? (UA-Roach)**—RITZ (1,376) (50c-60c-80c-1.00). Gross: \$7,500. (Average: \$9,050)
RIVER LADY (U-I) and **WHO KILLED DOC ROBBIN? (UA-Roach)**—STUDIO (880) (50c-60c-80c-1.00). Gross: \$6,000. (Average: \$6,300)
RIVER LADY (U-I) and **WHO KILLED DOC ROBBIN? (UA-Roach)**—UNITED ARTISTS (2,100) (50c-60c-80c-1.00). Gross: \$10,000. (Average: \$9,580)
RUTHLESS (E-L) and **SHED NO TEARS (E-L)**—BELMONT (1,600) (50c-60c-80c-1.00) 6 days. Gross: \$6,500. (Average: \$5,750)
RUTHLESS (E-L) and **SHED NO TEARS (E-L)**—EL REY (861) (50c-60c-80c-1.00) 6 days. Gross: \$7,000. (Average: \$5,700)
RUTHLESS (E-L) and **SHED NO TEARS (E-L)**—ORPHEUM (2,210) (50c-60c-80c-1.00) 6 days. Gross: \$18,000. (Average: \$14,650)
RUTHLESS (E-L) and **SHED NO TEARS (E-L)**—VOGUE (800) (50c-60c-80c-1.00) 6 days. Gross: \$7,000. (Average: \$6,500)
THE SEARCH (M-G-M)—FOUR STAR (900) (50c-60c-80c-1.00) 2nd week. Gross: \$8,000. (Average: \$7,450)
THE STREET WITH NO NAME (20th-Fox) and **HERE COMES TROUBLE (UA-Roach)**—CARTWAY CIRCLE (1,516) (50c-60c-80c-1.00) 3rd week. Gross: \$7,000. (Average: \$9,500)
THE STREET WITH NO NAME (20th-Fox) and **HERE COMES TROUBLE (UA-Roach)**—CHINESE (2,300) (50c-60c-80c-1.00) 3rd week. Gross: \$10,500. (Average: \$13,000)
THE STREET WITH NO NAME (20th-Fox) and **HERE COMES TROUBLE (UA-Roach)**—LOEW'S STATE (2,500) (50c-60c-80c-1.00). Gross: \$16,500. (Average: \$19,800)
THE STREET WITH NO NAME (20th-Fox) and **HERE COMES TROUBLE (UA-Roach)**—LOYOLA (1,265) (50c-60c-80c-1.00) 3rd week. Gross: \$8,000. (Average: \$10,000)
THE STREET WITH NO NAME (20th-Fox) and **HERE COMES TROUBLE (UA-Roach)**—UPTOWN (1,716) (50c-60c-80c-1.00)
SUMMER HOLIDAY (M-G-M) and **BIG CITY (M-G-M)**—EGYPTIAN (1,000) (50c-60c-80c-1.00) 6 days. Gross: \$13,500. (Average: \$11,900)
SUMMER HOLIDAY (M-G-M) and **BIG CITY (M-G-M)**—FOX-WILSHIRE (2,300) (50c-60c-80c-1.00) 6 days. Gross: \$15,000. (Average: \$12,850)
SUMMER HOLIDAY (M-G-M) and **BIG CITY (M-G-M)**—LOS ANGELES (2,096) (50c-60c-80c-1.00) 6 days. Gross: \$25,000. (Average: \$18,100)
WALLFLOWER (WB) and **THE BIG PUNCH (WB)**—WARNERS (Downtown) (3,400) (50c-60c-80c-1.00) 6 days. Gross: \$9,000. (Average: \$13,730)
WALLFLOWER (WB) and **THE BIG PUNCH (WB)**—WARNERS (Hollywood)

Review

"Daredevils of the Clouds"

(Republic)

A CONSPIRACY to put a private air service out of business serves as the basis for a melodrama developed strictly along routine lines. The tale is able to work up no better than mild excitement as it unwinds under the direction of George Blair. The film will have to depend upon its action more than anything else to bid for attention.

The proceedings take place in the North country, where Robert Livingston and James Cardwell, war buddies, are partners in the operation of an air line. Livingston finds himself in a serious predicament when Cardwell joins Grant Withers, the villain of the piece, in hijacking a gold shipment upon which hinges the future of the line. How Livingston recovers the gold—which is not covered by insurance—provides some suspense, not to mention a violent climax. The successful outcome of his mission is due a lot to the courageous assistance of Mae Clark, a former WASP, with whom he finds romance.

Performances are sincere if nothing else. Edward Gargan supplies some comedy relief that should help. Stephen Auer produced from a screenplay by Norman S. Hall.

Running time, 60 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, August 3. P.E.L.

(3,000) (50c-60c-80c-1.00) 6 days. Gross: \$9,000. (Average: \$11,650)
WALLFLOWER (WB) and **THE BIG PUNCH (WB)**—WARNERS (Wiltern) (2,300) (50c-60c-80c-1.00) 6 days. Gross: \$8,000. (Average: \$11,220)
YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU (Col. Re-release) and **PENNIES FROM HEAVEN (Col. Re-release)**—MUSIC HALL (Beverly Hills) (900) (65c-85c-1.00) 6 days. Gross: \$2,800. (Average: \$3,150)
YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU (Col. Re-release) and **PENNIES FROM HEAVEN (Col. Re-release)**—MUSIC HALL (Downtown) (900) (65c-85c-1.00) 6 days. Gross: \$6,500. (Average: \$7,550)
YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU (Col. Re-release) and **PENNIES FROM HEAVEN (Col. Re-release)**—MUSIC HALL (Hawaii) (1,000) (65c-85c-1.00) 6 days. Gross: \$3,200. (Average: \$3,400)
YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU (Col. Re-release) and **PENNIES FROM HEAVEN (Col. Re-release)**—MUSIC HALL (Hollywood) (490) (65c-85c-1.00) 6 days. Gross: \$2,300. (Average: \$3,100)

OMAHA

Weakened receipts strengthened this week. End of the Ak-Sar-Ben horse racing probably was a major factor. Many people also were turning to the air-cooled theatres for relief from sultry heat. Estimated receipts for the week ended July 14-15:

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—PARAMOUNT (2,900) (50c-65c). Gross: \$9,200. (Average: \$11,400)
FEUDIN', FUSSIN' AND A-FIGHTING (U-I) and **WATERFRONT AT MIDNIGHT (Para.)**—ORPHEUM (3,000) (50c-65c). Gross: \$10,600. (Average: \$9,900)
THE EMPEROR WALTZ (Para.) and **SPEED TO SPARE (Para.)**—OMAHA (2,000) (50c-65c) 2nd week for "The Emperor Waltz," on a moveover from the Paramount. Gross: \$9,500. (Average: \$8,500)
HOME COMING (M-G-M)—STATE (750) (50c-65c) 2nd week. Gross: \$5,000. (Average: \$5,000)
THE FULLER BRUSH MAN (Col.) and **PORT SAID (Col.)**—RKO BRANDEIS (1,100) (50c-65c). Gross: \$10,000. (Average: \$6,700)

PHILADELPHIA

"Easter Parade" tops the hit parade with \$44,000 in its first week at the Mastbaum. Most grosses, however, suffered from summer doldrums in spite of Democratic National Convention. Estimated receipts for the week ended July 13-15:

ALL MY SONS (U-I)—ARCADIA (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd run. Gross: \$3,800. (Average: \$6,000)
CORONER CREEK (Col.)—STANTON (1,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: \$8,300. (Average: \$11,900)
EASTER PARADE (M-G-M)—MASTBAUM (4,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: \$44,000. (Average: \$27,800)
THE EMPEROR WALTZ (Para.)—STANTON (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 4th week. Gross: \$20,000. (Average: \$20,500)
FIGHTING FATHER DUNNE (RKO Radio)—ALDINE (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-

94c). Gross: \$10,800. (Average: \$13,200)
GIVE MY REGARDS TO BROADWAY (20th-Fox)—KEITH (2,200) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd run, 2nd week, 5 days. Gross: \$3,000. (Average: \$6,100)
ON AN ISLAND WITH YOU (M-G-M)—GOLDMAN (1,400) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 4th week. Gross: \$14,500. (Average: \$22,400)
THE PARADINE CASE (SRO)—BOYD (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: \$26,500. (Average: \$23,100)
THE PIRATE (M-G-M)—EARLE (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: \$16,000. (Average: \$24,300)
SUMMER HOLIDAY (M-G-M)—KARLTON (1,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 3rd week. Gross: \$4,500. (Average: \$12,000)
THE STREET WITH NO NAME (20th-Fox)—FOX (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: \$26,000. (Average: \$20,400)

CLEVELAND

"The Emperor Waltz" was away out in the lead. First showing of "Best Years of Our Lives" at popular prices is giving Warners' Hippodrome a healthy gross; and the second week of "On an Island with You" is well on its way to a better than average take. Extremely hot weather notwithstanding, most of the pictures turned in a good summer gross. Estimated receipts for the week ended July 13-14:

ALWAYS TOGETHER (WB)—LOWER MALL (563) (50c-70c). Gross: \$2,000. (Average: \$2,500)
BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—WARNERS' HIPPODROME (3,500) (55c-70c). First showing at popular prices. Gross: \$16,000. (Average: \$15,000)
THE EMPEROR WALTZ (Para.)—LOEW'S STATE (3,300) (50c-70c). Gross: \$28,000. (Average: \$19,300)
THE MAN FROM TEXAS (E-L)—LOEW'S OHIO (1,268) (50c-70c). Gross: \$5,000. (Average: \$6,200)
ON AN ISLAND WITH YOU (M-G-M)—LOEW'S STILLMAN (1,900) (50c-70c) 2nd week, on a moveover from the State. Gross: \$12,000. (Average: \$10,500)
PANHANDLE (Allied-Monogram)—RKO ALLEN (3,000) (55c-70c). Gross: \$14,000. (Average: \$13,800)
ROMANCE ON THE HIGH SEAS (WB)—WARNERS' LAKE (714) (55c-70c) 2nd week, on a moveover from the Hippodrome. Gross: \$2,500. (Average: \$3,000)
UP IN CENTRAL PARK (U-I)—RKO PALACE (3,300) (55c-70c). Gross: \$10,500. (Average: \$16,000)

KANSAS CITY

First hot spell, temperatures in the 90's, and then cooling rains, helped theatre attendance, both first runs and subsequents. Estimated receipts for the week ended July 13-15:

FIGHTING FATHER DUNNE (RKO Radio) and **THE ARIZONA RANGER (RKO Radio)**—ORPHEUM (1,900) (45c-65c) 9 days. Gross: \$14,000. (Average for 9 days: \$12,500)
THE STREET WITH NO NAME (20th-

Short Subject

'The Children's Republic'

(A. F. Films, Inc.)

"The Children's Republic" is a 23-minute subject which depicts the life and education of a group of Paris orphans, with a narration by Madeleine Carroll. The camera records Carroll's visit to the orphanage and explains how youthful vagrants are taken to this miniature "republic" which is entirely governed by the children. They choose the subjects they are to study and the laws to govern themselves. It is an informative subject dealing with the problem of homeless children, and it is interestingly presented. Available for 35mm., 16mm. and television showings.

FOX—FAIRWAY (700) (45c-65c) 10 days. Gross: \$3,200. (Average for 10 days: \$2,750)
THE STREET WITH NO NAME (20th-Fox)—TOWER (2,100) (45c-65c) 10 days. Gross: \$16,800. (Average for 10 days: \$11,500)
THE STREET WITH NO NAME (20th-Fox)—UPTOWN (2,000) (45c-65c) 10 days. Gross: \$10,300. (Average for 10 days: \$8,500)
SUMMER HOLIDAY (M-G-M) and **THE SIGN OF THE RAM (Col.)**—MIDLAND (3,500) (45c-65c). Gross: \$18,750. (Average: \$15,000)
WILL IT HAPPEN AGAIN? (FC) and **ARGYLE SECRETS (FC)**—ESQUIRE (800) (45c-65c). Gross: \$5,750. (Average: \$5,000)

DENVER

Even though weather is coaxing people into the open, three films are getting holdovers, with "Best Years of Our Lives" and "Emperor Waltz" going into their fourth week, and "Canon City" into a second week. Estimated receipts for the week ended July 13-14:

BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—BROADWAY (1,500) (35c-74c) 3rd week. Gross: \$9,000. (Average: \$7,000)
CANON CITY (E-L) and **LADY AT MIDNIGHT (E-L)**—ALADDIN (1,400) (35c-74c). Gross: \$5,000. (Average: \$2,500)
CANON CITY (E-L) and **LADY AT MIDNIGHT (E-L)**—PARAMOUNT (2,200) (35c-74c). Gross: \$17,000. (Average: \$10,000)
CANON CITY (E-L) and **LADY AT MIDNIGHT (E-L)**—WEBBER (750) (35c-74c). Gross: \$4,000. (Average: \$2,000)
THE EMPEROR WALTZ (Para.)—DENHAM (1,750) (35c-74c) 3rd week. Gross: \$12,500. (Average: \$11,000)
FORT APACHE (RKO Radio) and **OPEN SECRET (E-L)**—ORPHEUM (2,600) (35c-74c) 2nd week. Gross: \$10,500. (Average: \$13,500)
THE NOOSE HANGS HIGH (E-L) and **ASSIGNED TO DANGER (E-L)**—DENVER (2,525) (35c-74c). Gross: \$16,000. (Average: \$13,000)
THE NOOSE HANGS HIGH (E-L) and **ASSIGNED TO DANGER (E-L)**—ESQUIRE (742) (35c-74c). Gross: \$2,000. (Average: \$2,000)

Night Games Cut N.E. Grosses 15 to 25%

BOSTON, July 15.—Theatre grosses in New England are between 15 to 25 per cent below last year, according to a survey of theatre circuits and film booking and buying offices. Night baseball games are cited as among the principal competitive attractions.

New Flat, Fibre Screen

The glass, woven-fibre, flat-surface screen installed at Loew's State here by Herman Gluckman's Nu-Screen Co. is, according to Loew executives, the first of its kind in any theatre. Gluckman has been dealing in screens of the same material but concave surfaced.

Five Grossed \$60,343,000 In 1st Quarter

\$4-Million Drop Under Same Quarter of 1947

WASHINGTON, July 18.—Gross sales of five film companies amounted to \$60,343,000 during the first quarter of 1948, compared to \$66,255,000 in the fourth quarter of 1947, and \$64,514,000 in the first quarter of 1947, according to a report by the Securities and Exchange Commission.

The five firms are Columbia, Monogram, RKO, Republic and Universal. No figures have been received yet from other firms, the SEC said.

Additionally, Loew's reported sales of \$52,551,000 in the 16 weeks ending March 11, 1948. It had sales of \$33,107,000 in the shorter period beginning Sept. 1, 1947, and ending Nov. 20, 1947. Comparative quarter figures were not available for Loew's.

Universal and Monogram showed sales in the first quarter of 1948 below the 1947 fourth quarter, but above the 1947 first quarter. Columbia's sales were above the fourth quarter

(Continued on page 4)

Drive-ins Win Major Bldg. Code Victory

Drive-in theatres in New York State have been saved many thousands in added costs by convincing the State Board of Standards and Appeals in Albany that a provision in the proposed new state building code requiring fire-proof drive-in enclosure walls would create unnecessary expense, according to state and industry spokesmen here.

The fight against the provision, led by the up-state Hellman-Fabian drive-in interests, was pressed following last year's public hearings on new code proposals. In a new listing of con-

(Continued on page 3)

Funeral Today for William N. Selig, 84

HOLLYWOOD, July 18.—William N. Selig, 84, industry pioneer who was voted a special Academy Award and life membership in the Academy this spring, died at his home here on Friday after a brief illness. A veteran inventor, producer and distributor, he had maintained an office in Hollywood during recent years to sell the vast

(Continued on page 3)

Expect 400-500 at TOA Convention; Agenda All-inclusive

Indications are that 400 to 500 exhibitors, distribution and studio officials will attend the Theatre Owners of America convention at the Drake Hotel, Chicago, September 24-25, according to Robert W. Coyne, retiring executive director. The agenda will concern all in the industry, he said.

He said there are tentative plans for three general business sessions. Committees will be assigned to study television, 16mm. competition, taxation, public relations, audience expansion, campaigns and charities and distributor-exhibitor relations.

TOA's legal advisory council will hold a special session and is expected to report to the convention with recommendations concerning operations under the U. S. Supreme Court opinion. Also up for consideration is

(Continued on page 3)

Greece Will Remit \$500,000 to U.S.

Greece will remit \$500,000 to American companies for the period from July 1, 1948 to June 30, 1949, but, at the same time, is furthering efforts to have admission prices cut and to control percentages, according to Victor G. Michaelides, distributor in Greece for Warner, M-G-M, Universal-International, and a number of independents, who is now in New York.

The government first had asked for a 50 per cent cut in admissions, but

(Continued on page 4)

Special Session of No Film Interest

Washington, July 18.—The special session of Congress which President Truman has called for July 26 is not expected to enact any legislation of interest to the film industry.

There is said to be little likelihood that the session will give the President the price and allocation controls that he is almost certain to ask for. But there is some possibility that the Senate may act on the House-approved tax revision bill, which would be of some indirect benefit to film companies

171 Theatres Attack Fire-guard Bill

PHILADELPHIA, July 18.—Representatives of 171 local theatres will protest on Tuesday to the City Council on Public Safety a proposed ordinance that would require theatres to hire special fire-guards. The Philadelphia Theatre Association, which represents 171 theatres, has a 12-man committee, under the head of Morris Wax, to carry the group's condemnation of the proposed measure.

If passed the bill would require theatre owners to hire fire-guards for each film performance, the guards to be licensed by the director of public safety. The association considers the bill discriminatory because the council did not consider other public places. Also, it says, the theatres strictly enforce fire rules.

1st Relief in Jackson Park Case Granted

Four Weeks for 'Waltz' Approved on Para. Bid

CHICAGO, July 18.—First major relief to a distributor-exhibitor who is party to the Jackson Park decree was given on Friday when District Court Judge Michael H. Igoe granted Paramount and Balaban and Katz a motion for a maximum four-week run of Paramount's "The Emperor Waltz."

The film opened at the weekend at B. and K.'s Chicago Theatre. The decree heretofore and held all Loop first-runs to a two-week limitation after which the product had to be made available to subsequent.

Although Judge Igoe's new order covers only "Waltz" and this one situation, exhibitor and distributor spokesmen of the area believe concessions of a similar nature might be had with other top product.

Some time ago Columbia, not a defendant in the case, asked permission not to be bound by the decree but this was denied. Most of Chicago's first-runs are immediate parties to the decree and these were cited in the denial.

Film Classics Gets Rialto as Showcase

Film Classics has closed with the Rialto, on New York's Broadway, as an exclusive first-run show-case in a deal with James Mage, operator of the theatre, it was announced at the weekend by Joseph Bernhard, Film Classics president.

Scheduled to play the theatre under the new set-up are four pictures, all in Cinecolor: "Sofia," "Miraculous Journey," "Unknown Island" and "Daughter of Ramona."

U.A. Sets Even-Split 'Red River' Terms

United Artists will offer Howard Hawks' production of "Red River" on an even revenue split with exhibitors, from the first dollar, with exhibitor and distributor equally sharing advertising costs.

Hawks reportedly went considerably over his original budget with a final negative cost hitting close to \$3,000,000. Prints, advertising and the distributor's share are figured to bring the break-even mark to \$4,000,000.

"The Babe Ruth Story"

[Allied Artists] — It's a Home Run

Hollywood, July 18

PRODUCER-DIRECTOR ROY DEL RUTH'S dramatically factual presentation of Babe Ruth's life and works, easily the best picture ever based on a living sports personality, is money in the till for exhibitors anywhere and everywhere.

Combining the best features of biography and documentary, yet retaining warmth, the film has impact and tension seldom equalled in fiction narratives. The picture is rare entertainment on all counts. With William Bendix, Claire Trevor, Charles Bickford for marquee purposes to attract anyone unversed in Ruth's record, the film figures to open big and build as it plays.

Del Ruth's handling of the script by Bob Considine and George Callahan, from the former's book, is distinguished. It starts with Ruth as a boy sent to St. Mary's Boys School as an incipient delinquent, follows him through his career on the diamond, showing his roistering and obstreperous derelictions as well as his heroics, and closes with his submitting to life-or-death surgery.

It dwells often enough on his devotion to juvenile fans and on his

(Continued on page 3)

Video - Decision Rule By FCC Up in the Air

WASHINGTON, July 18.—Whether the Paramount *et al* decision by the Supreme Court will block Paramount and other companies from the television field will not be determined by the Federal Communications Commission in the Tri-States Meredith case, it was learned here on Friday. Because of the long delay by FCC in moving the case, the company has cancelled its deal to buy KSO in Des Moines.

Tri-States Meredith is half-owned by Tri-States Circuit which, in turn, is half-owned by A. H. Blank. Blank has told the FCC he alone controls his company.

Deputy Captains Set In E-L Sales Drive

Deputy captains in Eagle-Lion's Bill Heineman sales push have been named by Max E. Youngstein, publicity-advertising chief and drive captain. The line-up includes Herbert H. Horstmeier, Cleveland; Lewis J. Lieser, Buffalo; Harry S. Alexander, Albany; Harry Segal, Boston.

Youngstein returned to New York from Boston on Friday, completing the first leg of a nationwide tour of company exchanges. With him was Milton E. Cohen, Eastern division sales manager.

deRochemont Names Shute a Producer

James L. Shute has been appointed an assistant producer of March of Time by Richard de Rochemont, producer. Shute has been senior script editor for 13 years.

File in NT Stock Suit

Six 20th-Fox minority stockholders on Friday filed notice in Federal Court here to appear as plaintiffs at the August 3 hearing on the proposed settlement in the stockholders' suit brought against National Theatres officers over sale of NT shares. The sextet comprises Samuel Friedman, Jack and Virginia Geiger and Anna, Leon and Amelia Marcus.

Plan Drive-In

PORTLAND, Ore., July 18.—Outdoor Theatres has purchased a site near the Burlingame district, on which a new drive-in theatre will be constructed. Construction is expected to start within 60 days, according to Albert F. Forman and Willard E. Gamble, company officials.

Maurer To Address NTFC

J. A. Maurer, executive vice-president of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers, will address the next meeting of the National Television Film Council on Thursday evening, at Sardi's, it was announced by Melvin L. Gold, NTFC chairman.

Television in Texas

Station WBAP-TV, Fort Worth, will commence operations on Sept. 15 as the first television station in Texas and the latest affiliate of American Broadcasting Co.

Personal Mention

DORE SCHARY, new M-G-M production vice-president, left the Coast Saturday for a vacation which will include an address on July 30 to the Colorado Writers Congress at the University of Colorado.

DEWEY HURT, manager of the Rose-land Theatre, Omaha, has entered the Veterans' Hospital in Lincoln, Neb., for surgery. **MAURICE FEGAL**, Circle manager, will replace him temporarily.

TOM HARRIS, son of **BUCKY HARRIS**, formerly Connecticut exploitation representative for RKO Radio and now with the U-I exploitation department, has joined the U-I exchange in Albany, N. Y., as apprentice booker.

EDWARD L. HYMAN, vice-president of Paramount Pictures Service Corp., is visiting **HARRY ROYSTER** in the Netco Theatres up-state territory this week.

JOSEPH DE LUISE of the Eagle-Lion branch accounting department here, and **ROSE BANCALE** were married over the weekend.

WILLIAM B. LEVY, world-wide sales supervisor for Walt Disney Productions, left here over the weekend for studio conferences on the Coast.

DOUG G. LOTHERINGTON, RKO Radio general sales manager for Australia, is in New York for home office talks.

JACK HYLTON, British actor and director, and **ROBERT CONSIDINE**, writer, and his wife are en route to Europe on the *SS Queen Elizabeth*.

N. H. WATERS, SR., president of the Waters circuit in Birmingham, and his wife and daughter are vacationing at Daytona Beach, Fla.

A. BROWN PARKES, veteran theatre executive, has returned to the film business as manager of the Melba in Birmingham.

BERNARD GINLEY, manager of the Southern Theatre, Columbus, O., and **MRS. GINLEY** have become parents of a daughter, **PATRICIA KATHLEEN**.

BURTON F. PERRY, acting recording manager of Westrex, left here at the weekend for Mexico City.

M. C. HILLBURN has been named manager of the Strand in Portland, Tenn.

D. A. LUKE has been named manager of the Stein Theatre, Auburn, Ga.

H. SPEARS, general manager of Bailey's Theatres, has returned to Atlanta from the Coast.

R. D. GOLDBERG, head of Goldberg Theatres, was a recent visitor here from Omaha.

W. LEE WILBER, producer, is due here from the Coast.

EDWARD M. FAY, veteran New England theatre executive and owner of Fay's Theatre in Providence, has been elected chairman of the Providence county chapter of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis. **I. J. HOFFMAN**, New England zone manager for Warner Theatres, is a member of the executive committee of the New Haven County chapter.

CAROL BRYER, daughter of **MILTON H. BRYER**, former manager of Schine's Bucyrus Theatre in Bucyrus, O., and **RICHARD CHESSIN** of Cleveland have announced their engagement.

JOHN COYNE, former office manager at M-G-M's San Francisco exchange, has been appointed salesman. **MAX BUXBAUM** has been named assistant branch manager, a newly-created position.

LOU MILDER has been transferred to Warners' Colony Theatre, Cleveland, from the Lake, succeeding **HAROLD FRIEDMAN**, who has been switched to the Uptown.

MARSHALL FINE, son of **MEYER FINE**, head of Associated Circuit, Cleveland, and a recent graduate of the Babson Business School of Boston, has joined the circuit.

TOM GRASSO of Windsor Locks, Conn., and **HERBERT JAFFEE** of New Britain, have purchased the interests of their partners in the New Colony, summer film house at Sound View, Conn.

PAUL O. KLINGER, manager of Loew's Poli Strand in Waterbury, Conn., and **MRS. KLINGER** are observing their 21st wedding anniversary.

VANCE PEASE, former manager of the San Carlos Theatre, has been appointed manager of the State Theatre in Azusa, Cal., replacing **BOB OTWELL**.

JOHN R. FREDERICKS has been named manager of Fox West Coast's Fox and Hyde Theatres in Visalia, Cal., succeeding **ROBERT BENTON**.

MORRIS HADELMAN, operator of the Shelton Theatre, Shelton, Conn., and **MRS. HADELMAN** are observing their 40th wedding anniversary.

HOLLIS W. SWEENEY has been appointed assistant manager at Loew's Poli in Springfield, Mass.

DAVID FLEXER, head of Flexer Theatres and **W. C. BRYANT**, comptroller, have returned to Memphis from Hollywood.

WES ROSENTHAL, B. F. Shearer Co. salesman in San Francisco, was recently injured in an automobile accident.

ROBERT GENTNER has been appointed student assistant manager of Loew's Poli in Hartford.

Newsreel Parade

ALL current newsreels issues offer climax highlights of the recent Democratic national convention in Philadelphia. Two devote their entire footage to that subject, while the death of Gen. John J. Pershing and sport events are included in the others. Full synopses follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 57—Democratic convention in Philadelphia.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 291—Democratic convention's dramatic highlights; Victory for Truman. Death calls General Pershing. Athletes sail for Olympics.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 94—Democratic convention in Philadelphia.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 161—Democrats Truman and Barkley head 1948 ticket. Racing thrills; midget autos, motorcycling in Holland.

WARNER PATHE NEWS, No. 96—U. S. Olympic team sails. General Pershing dead at 87. Truman and Barkley nominated by Democrats. Great Events: Admiral Farragut.

Salt Lake City Faces Sales Tax

SALT LAKE CITY, July 18.—A city sales tax appears to be a possibility here as city officials proposed a \$10,000,000 civic improvements program.

Mayor Earl J. Glade, who recently called on Municipal League officials to back him in a move to have the Federal government share funds from amusement taxes with cities or to give up this source of revenue to the cities entirely, has wired Utah's Congressional delegation asking that they work for the abandonment of amusement taxes by the Government.

St. Cloud Acquires Two

St. Cloud Amusement Co. of New York has taken over operation of the 1,200-seat Sherman Theatre in Stroudsburg, Pa., and the 700-seat Plaza in East Stroudsburg, under a deal arranged by Berk and Krungold, theatre realty specialists here. Both theatres, built and operated for 30 years by the Scheurmann family, had been booked by the Comerford Circuit until recently. St. Cloud Amusement has started a \$150,000 rehabilitation program for the two houses.

Levin to Israel

Meyer Levin, producer of "The Illegals," now at the Ambassador Theatre here, will make his next picture in Israel. He left Saturday by air. Levin has four stories ready, one of which he will produce himself. One is biblical, another is a story of the Palestinian war and a third is a treatment of his novel "Yehuda."

Applebaum in New Post

TORONTO, July 18.—Formerly with Warner Brothers here, Morris Applebaum has been appointed business agent of the Film Exchange Employees Union. There is a possibility that the union will seek new agreements with local distributors.

Cohen Reports Banning

The French film importation, "The Devil Blows," has been banned in its entirety by the New York State Board of Censors, Leo Cohen, foreign film distributor here, announces.

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Services Here Today For Jack Pulaski

Funeral rites for Jack Pulaski, 65, critic of *Variety*, will be held at 2:30 P.M. today at Riverside Memorial Chapel, Manhattan. Cremation will follow at Ferncliff Crematorium in Westchester. He died Friday morning in Jewish Memorial Hospital here following a stroke on July 8.

Survivors include Pulaski's widow, Lillian; a brother and two sisters, Ani Pulaski and Mrs. Alice Glazer, wife of Barney Glazer, film producer and writer.

Pulaski began his association with *Variety* 38 years ago as the paper's Atlantic City correspondent.

William N. Selig

(Continued from page 1)

reservoir of story properties acquired during his production career.

Funeral services will be held tomorrow afternoon from Pierce Brothers Mortuary.

Producer of silent films, including the first serial, "Adventures of Kathlyn," Selig was awarded a medal by Pope Pius X for the historical film, "Coming of Columbus" in 1912. Other pictures he produced included: "The Spoilers," "The Garden of Allah," "The Rosary," "Orphan Annie" and "The Hoosier Romance."

The widow, Mary H., survives.

Rites for Takiff Son

Funeral services were held at Riverside Memorial Chapel in Manhattan yesterday for Russell Warren Takiff, five, son of Harry Takiff, assistant to Jack Cohn, Columbia's executive vice-president. The child was drowned on Thursday at Sky Farm Camp, Naples, Me.

Fred Mercy Rites

YAKIMA, Wash., July 18.—Theatre owners and exchange managers from Seattle attended the funeral here on Friday of Fred Mercy, Sr., pioneer Eastern Washington exhibitor, who died on Tuesday.

Chester to CBS Video

Edmund Chester, director of short-wave broadcasting and Latin American affairs for CBS since 1940, has been appointed director of news, special events and sports for the CBS television network.

New Canadian Company

OTTAWA, July 18.—Carillon Pictures, Ltd., has been chartered by the Secretary of State here.

"The Babe Ruth Story"

(Continued from page 1)

home-run performances, but not too often or long on either. Kids are given plenty to thrill them, and adults are given an equal opportunity to take what they will from Ruth's mixed but never dull career.

Bendix's performance as Ruth is a triumph in naturalness. Miss Trevor as the girl he marries, and Bickford as a cleric who teaches him as a boy and remains a steadfast friend through his turbulent years, are eminently satisfactory, while Sam Levene, Gertrude Neisen and Stanley Clements, among others in support, add their substantial contributions to the rounded whole.

It's a home run.

Running time, 106 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

"Eyes of Texas"

(Republic)

ITS entertainment value heightened by Trucolor, "Eyes of Texas" rates as one of the finer Roy Rogers pictures. While the film adheres to the accepted Western pattern, it deviates in substance from the customary plot structure. It has as its villain a woman lawyer, as its murder weapon a pack of starved dogs, as its locale a modern Western town, and for its comedy, Andy Devine in a somewhat more intelligent role than he has played before in this series.

With Edward J. White as associate producer, director William Witney has taken the original and well-written screenplay by Sloan Nibely, emphasized the action and treachery and incorporated scenes of viciousness and brutal fighting seldom shown in series Westerns. However, these scenes never become so brutal that they will be found objectionable.

The story concerns the arrival of Rogers in a Western town. As a United States marshal he has been sent to investigate the death of a wealthy land owner, reportedly killed by wolves. Beaten, flogged and driven from town for probing too deeply into the murder, he returns and then exposes the woman lawyer handling the estate as the brutal and ruthless leader who had trained four dogs to murder, and brings her gang to justice.

Woven into the story are numerous opportunities for Rogers and Bob Nolan and the Sons of the Pioneers to present several musical numbers, including "Texas Trails," "Padre of Old San Antonio" and "Graveyard Filler of the West." Lynne Roberts has the feminine lead, while Nana Bryant is the unscrupulous lawyer.

Running time, 70 minutes. General audience classification. Release date July 15.

"Strange Victory"

(Target Films, Inc.)

TARGET FILMS presents here an eloquent appeal for racial tolerance and a savage indictment of the Hitler brand of super-nationality. Racial and religious hatred and persecution thrive in the United States, this documentary points out; and it challenges the audience to face the fact that even though Americans fought a bitter war to erase those evil manifestations from Europe, the color of an American's skin, the shape of his nose, the manner in which he chooses to worship can mark him for ostracism, discrimination, ridicule.

Producer Barnet L. Rosset, Jr., has chosen to drive home this point by blending some of the most magnificent battle footage of World War II with superb camera studies of children of all ages and races, a wealth of striking scenes of metropolitan, rural and industrial life, captured Nazi film and footage taken in New York City by Target cameramen. There also are scenes showing American and Soviet soldiers in happy association on V-E Day.

Although Leo Hurwitz has written, directed and edited this documentary with professional competence and has made it attention-compelling most of the way, he has permitted it to run too long—by perhaps about 20 minutes—and has allowed much unnecessary visual and sound-track repetition. But it is, nonetheless, a film to be encouraged for its inspiring, even if over-emphasized, message. Cast includes Virgil Richardson, Cathy McGregor, Sophie Maslow and Jack Henderson. Narration, written by Saul Levitt, is delivered by Alfred Drake, Muriel Smith and Gary Merrill.

Running time, 70 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

CHARLES L. FRANK

Drive-ins Win

(Continued from page 1)

templated code provisions, which is being made available to theatre owners by the State Industrial Code Division here preliminary to this Wednesday's final public hearing on the new document, the State has deferred to the drive-in operators' pleas on the walls. The majority of drive-ins in this state are said to have wooden fence enclosures. Metal ones would have been required under the disputed provision.

Wednesday's hearing, which is open to all theatre representatives, will be held in the Empire State Building here, and will be devoted to a discussion of the new code's application to both regular theatres and drive-ins.

TOA Convention

(Continued from page 1)

the 20th Century-Fox-North Central Allied system of conciliation now being tried in Minneapolis.

It is planned that a television broadcasting official will address the meeting on theatres and video, with an exhibition of large-screen television also anticipated.

New Ogden Theatre

OGDEN, Utah, July 18.—A \$100,000 theatre is expected to open in the new South Ogden business district by September 1. The house is being constructed by Country Club Enterprises, Inc., and will be known as the Country Club Theatre.

End of Strike Threat Boosts Production

Hollywood, July 18.—Reflecting a reaction to the recent successful completion of contract negotiations between the studios and the Screen Actors Guild, which eliminated threat of a strike on August 1, the production index last week rose from 31 to 36 films in work. Shooting started on 13 pictures and were completed.

Rules Theatre Sale Doesn't Break Lease

ALBANY, N. Y., July 18.—Court of Appeals has upheld the Appellate Division's decision continuing in effect the lease for the Little Carnegie Theatre, Manhattan, held by Max Goldberg and Irwin Lesser, which has three more years before expiration. The new owners of the property, a corporation headed by J. Goldwurm, had sought to cancel the rental agreement. Goldberg and Lesser, through attorney Louis Nizer, claimed that the landlord would have the right to cancel if the property sold was in conjunction with contiguous property.

Drive-in on Raceway

ALBANY, N. Y., July 18.—Construction of a 500-car drive-in on the parking lot of Empire Raceways at nearby Menands is expected to get under way shortly. Newly-formed Raceway Realty Corp. will build the theatre which will be used for films six nights weekly and as a parking lot for patrons of the midget auto races on Wednesdays. William Thompson and Carol Roupp operate the raceway.



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MPEA and Czechs Reported in Deal

Agreement on a new contract between the Motion Picture Export Association and the Czech Film Monopoly is reported from Prague.

Irving Maas, vice-president and general manager of MPEA, has been in Prague for some time, discussing terms of a new deal. An MPEA spokesman in New York said his office had not been advised of any settlement. The Prague report stated that terms of the new contract had been fixed on a 50-50 basis and that the MPEA had agreed to take on a limited number of Czech productions for distribution in the U. S.

There was no indication of the number of pictures involved. Under the last contract, MPEA imported 80 films into Czechoslovakia. The new deal involves only about 50 films, it is reported. Contract negotiations were deadlocked early this summer when the Czechs insisted on a picture-for-picture exchange deal which was termed unacceptable by Maas.

Greece Will Remit

(Continued from page 1)

this later was lowered to 25 per cent. Greek admissions now run at an average of 45 cents, of which 48½ per cent goes to taxes. In addition, a five per cent war tax is charged, leaving the exhibitor 23 cents net. Rental terms average 35 per cent.

Bar Minimum Guarantee

Amount of dollars to be remitted this year equals the total of last year. There is the stipulation, however, that the majors must distribute on percentage with no minimum guarantee asked. All earnings are deposited with the Bank of Greece which makes quarterly allocations in proportion to the money deposited.

Michaelides, who with his partner Th. Damaskinos, controls more than 40 per cent of Greek bookings, said about 40 per cent of Americans' earnings are frozen and negotiations now are going on with a view to permitting the companies to use this money. He also said he was enlisting the aid of the Motion Picture Association of America and the U. S. State Department in swaying the Greek government from its decision to limit rental percentages.

20% Fewer Films from U. S.

Number of pictures to be sent into Greece by the majors will be cut about 20 per cent compared with the same period last year, he said, when 224 films were imported. Greek business, due to the civil war and other conditions, is down about 25 per cent. The other distributor in the Greek market is the Skouras organization which gets about 22 per cent of the business, Michaelides said. British films get about seven per cent. Greeks made and exhibited seven pictures last season.

Renaissance Lists \$1,200,000 Assets

OTTAWA, July 18.—Total assets of \$1,200,000 and current assets of \$404,798 as of Dec. 31, 1947 is reported by Renaissance Films. Current liabilities were listed at \$37,126 and a long-term debt of \$59,687 covering a balance due on real estate purchases. The company, which plans to offer 100,000 Class B preferred shares, claims it now has some 3,000 shareholders.

Mexican Receipts Sliding Downward

Washington, July 18.—Mexican exhibitors report a sharp attendance slump, according to a Commerce Department report by film chief Nathan D. Golden.

Golden added that 13 of 19 key theatres in Mexico's Federal District grossed more during the first six months of 1947 than the last six months, and that exhibitors declare the trend is continuing. Total receipts in the district in 1947, nevertheless, hit a new high, and U. S. films continued to take the top share of receipts.

Five Firms Grossed

(Continued from page 1)

but below the first quarter last year. RKO and Monogram reported sales during the first quarter of 1948 below earlier periods. Here are the company-by-company breakdowns:

Columbia: \$8,529,000 (fourth quarter, 1947, \$7,172,000; first quarter, 1947, \$10,044,000). Monogram: \$2,097,000 (fourth quarter, 1947, \$2,313,000; first quarter, 1947, \$1,917,000). RKO: \$27,654,000 (fourth quarter, 1947, \$31,552,000; first quarter, 1947, \$31,632,000). Republic: \$6,838,000 (fourth quarter, 1947, \$7,306,000; first quarter, 1947, \$7,116,000). Universal: \$15,225,000 (fourth quarter, 1947, \$17,912,000; first quarter, 1947, \$13,805,000).

\$4,772,000 for RKO

The RKO figures include the net amount of film earnings of subsidiaries not consolidated operating in foreign territories. These amounted to \$4,772,000 in the first quarter of 1948, compared with \$4,575,000 in the fourth quarter of 1947 and \$4,908,000 in the first quarter of last year.

The report said that the gross income of Columbia's foreign subsidiaries—reported each time in the subsequent quarter, but omitted from the total—amounted to \$4,077,000 for the fourth quarter of 1947, compared with \$3,781,000 for the third quarter of 1947 and \$4,591,000 for the fourth quarter of 1946.

Two theatre firms were included in the report. Consolidated Amusement Co., Ltd., had sales of \$1,221,000 in the first quarter of this year, compared with \$1,127,000 in the fourth quarter and \$1,226,000 in the first quarter of 1947. Loew's Boston Theatres Co. reported sales of \$595,000 for a 16-week period ending March 11, compared with \$677,000 for the corresponding 1947 period, and \$405,000 for the shorter period beginning Sept. 1, 1947, and ending Nov. 20, 1947.

\$92,000,000 in Sales for E-K

Eastman Kodak sales were \$92,000,000 for the 12 weeks ending March 20, 1948, compared with \$120,000,000 for the 16 weeks ending December 27, 1947, and \$71,500,000 in the first 12 weeks of 1947.

General Precision Equipment Corp. had sales of \$5,538,000 for the first three months this year, compared with \$7,849,000 for the last three months of 1947 and \$5,727,000 for the first three months of 1947.

Creative Films, New Import Distributor

Creative Films, recently-formed West Coast foreign-film distributing company, is now in the process of establishing main offices in New York. Its first U. S. release will be the French film, "Francois Villon." Creative has three more French films lined up and is negotiating for product from other countries.

Beryl Weiner is president of the firm, with Harold J. Salemson, former Hollywood foreign correspondent, vice-president and general manager.

Eagle-Lion Deal for Brazil Distribution

RIO DE JANEIRO, July 14 (By Air-mail).—Finalization of a percentage distribution deal with Uniao Cinematografica Brasileira for distribution and exhibition of Eagle-Lion product in this country has been announced here by Sam Bekeris, E-L foreign executive, who was here from his Buenos Aires headquarters for talks with L. Ribeiro, Jr., Brazilian producer-distributor and circuit-operator.

First Hawaiian Drive-in

CLEVELAND, July 18. — George Petersen, drive-in theatre builder has contracted with E. I. Parker, president of Consolidated Amusement Co. of Honolulu to erect the first drive-in in the Hawaiian Islands, in Honolulu.

\$430,000 for New Theatres

OTTAWA, July 18. — The Canadian government reports that contracts awarded for the construction of theatres across this country during May reached a total of \$430,000.

Levin Comes Up With New Gimmick

San Francisco, July 18.—Irving Levin of San Francisco Theatres, innovator of the noiseless popcorn bag, has another innovation, the establishment of a special section in his theatres for worried parents who have left their children home with baby-sitters. Parents register as they enter the theatre, and through a special switchboard, telephone calls can be directly relayed to any parent seated in the blocked-off section.

N. E. Theatre Under Way; Two Await OK

HARTFORD, July 18. — Construction has started on a \$80,000 theatre in Mechanics Falls, Maine, being built by Joseph Lipschitz of Auburn, Maine, while plans for a \$250,000 theatre to be built in Swampscott, Mass., are awaiting approval by the city of a petition filed by Francis L. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. William O'Brien and Mr. and Mrs. John Mentuck.

Application by Arthur Moretti to construct a drive-in at Woonsocket, R. I., has been tabled by that town's police board for further study.

To Produce 'Barbara'

"Dona Barbara," Spanish novel by Romulo Gallegos, has been acquired by the recently formed Trans World Films, headed by Jacques Grinieff, for production in English.

MAGIC SHADOWS

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Film Salesmen Ask 40-50% Wage Increase

Demand More for Travel Expenses, Other Benefits

The new nationwide salesmen's union (Colosseum of Motion Picture Salesmen of America) served its initial demands on distributors here at the weekend, including a 40-50 per cent base salary boost, it is understood.

Top home office labor executives admitted here yesterday that they had received the demands from the Colosseum, but declined to comment otherwise.

Marking the first time that film salesmen nationally have presented demands through a union, the Colosseum additionally is seeking considerable increases in automobile mileage and other expense allowances, as well as numerous other considerations. The Colosseum recently was certified as bargaining representative for the

(Continued on page 5)

Johnston to Coast On Promotion Plan

Eric A. Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association of America, left New York yesterday for the Coast to give impetus to the formation of a studio public relations council which is designed to be representative of all segments of production.

The plan is to join all major studios, independent producers, talent and craft unions in an all-out campaign promoting Hollywood on an institutional basis.

Johnston is expected to meet with officers of the various guilds and representatives of the studios on the matter.

SGP Closes 2 Deals Involving 22 Films

CHICAGO, July 19.—Robert L. Lippert presided in his new post as president of Screen Guild Productions, succeeding John J. Jones, in a three day SGP franchise-holders meeting which concluded today at the Blackstone Hotel.

During course of the meeting, a deal was closed with Lippert Productions, Inc., for the release of 16 pictures for 1948-49.

Two already completed are "Re-

(Continued on page 5)

Jackson Park To Challenge 'Waltz' Grant

CHICAGO, July 19.—Thomas McConnell, the Jackson Park attorney, said today he will either enter an appeal or a mandamus this week with the Circuit Court of Appeals to expunge Federal Judge Michael J. Igoe's order of last Friday which granted Paramount and B & K's motion asking for additional playing time for "Emperor Waltz" in the Loop.

Judge Igoe allowed the defendants a maximum run of four weeks for the film which opened Friday at the Chicago. McConnell stated that his appeal or mandamus will be based on

(Continued on page 5)

Blumberg Marks Sept. 'Scully Month'

Universal-International has designated September as William A. Scully month, N. J. Blumberg, Universal president, announces, as a tribute to U-I's vice-president and general sales manager.

Four of the pictures designated as Drive pictures, have already had their premieres; they are: "Man-Eater of Kumaon," "Feudin', Fussin' and a-Fightin'," "Tap Roots," in Technicolor, and "Abbott and Costello Meet Frankenstein." A fifth, "Mr. Peabody and the Mermaid," will have its premiere at the Hollywood Theatre in Atlantic City on July 28. Two additional pictures are "Larceny," starring John Payne, Joan Caulfield, Dan

(Continued on page 5)

Australia Grosses Above Pre-war Mark

Business in Australia and New Zealand is generally better than in pre-war years but not up to the wartime peak, Doug Lotherington, RKO Radio general sales manager in that territory, asserted here yesterday. The trade in Australia is getting restive over the amusement admission tax which ranges from 25 to 30 per cent, he reported. Exhibitors particularly feel that the tax, imposed as a war measure, should be removed or adjusted, he said.

Among other things, Lotherington declared that Australia has no television, no drive-ins and very few

(Continued on page 5)

I. C. Hanson Files Coast Trust Suit

Los Angeles, July 19.—Ivan C. Hanson, owner of the Atlantic Theatre, at Long Beach, has filed a District Court suit against major distributors, Fox West Coast Theatres and the Cabart Corp., charging violation of anti-trust laws in maintaining excessively long clearance and charging excessive rentals for a subsequent run.

Technicolor 6-Mo. Net Is \$880,800

Net consolidated profit after taxes on income and other charges of Technicolor, Inc., for the quarter ended June 30, is estimated to be \$478,100, equivalent to 52 cents a share. Net for the six months ended June 30 is estimated to be \$880,800, equivalent to 96 cents a share, compared to \$734,200, equivalent to 80 cents a share for the corresponding six months of 1947, according to Dr. Herbert T. Kalmus, president.

Video May Use PCA Code as a Pattern

The code of the film industry's Production Code Administration in all probability will figure in the drafting of a similar self-imposed guide to standards to be drawn by the major television industry, according to Lawrence W. Lowman, vice-president of Columbia Broadcasting, who heads a code committee designated last week by the Television Broadcasters Association. The National Television Film Council is also drafting a code of standards.

Lowman said that he intends to consider all possible sources that might guide in the formulation of a code, including the radio broadcasters' code. Actually the radio industry studied the Production Code for assistance in the formulation of its own.

Serving with Lowman on the video committee are Norman E. Kersta, National Broadcasting television executive; Robert L. Coe, general manager of WPIX, New York, and Neil Swanson, executive vice-president of WMAR-TV, Baltimore. Lowman reported that his group probably will hold its first meeting before August 1. He intends to submit a proposed code to the TBA at its annual meeting in December.

35% Quota for Independents Seen Assured

Not Enough Rank B.O. Films Seen Coming

LONDON, July 19.—A Cinematograph Exhibitors Association delegation, following a conference today with British Board of Trade president, Harold Wilson, and other BOT officials, retired strategically, content that independent exhibitors are now assured that their quota will not exceed 35 per cent, the 45 per cent quota law notwithstanding.

Wilson and other BOT officials were confronted with a CEA brief emphasizing the point that J. Arthur Rank will be unable to produce pictures of sufficient box-office appeal to enable independent exhibitors to meet the new 45 per cent quota. The brief stressed second-runs in this connection, and presumably where a 35 per cent quota will apply to them, a 45 per cent quota will apply to the first-run circuit houses.

Wilson parried accusations that under the new quota he has created a Rank monopoly. He called the accusations "odious" and repeated his assurances that he is seeking ways and means to arrange for financing of independent producers here. The House

(Continued on page 5)

MPEA Defers Action On British Control

Company presidents and foreign managers again explored the desirability of controlled selling in England under the Motion Picture Export Association at a meeting here yesterday, but left a final decision for a subsequent session, probably next month. Eric A. Johnston, MPEA president, left for the Coast after yesterday's meeting, over which he presided, and

(Continued on page 5)

RKO Chicago Sales Meeting Tomorrow

CHICAGO, July 19.—Sales executives of RKO Radio will convene here Wednesday in the fourth of a series of zonal meetings. Robert Mochrie, distribution vice-president, will preside at the meeting at a review of business matters, the product schedule and current and future distribution plans will be on the agenda.

Those attending, including a dele-

(Continued on page 5)

NY 1st-Run Grosses Improve; 'Largo' Sets Strand Record

The week's grosses at New York first-runs, assisted by weekend cloudiness that lessened beach competition, range from poor to big with product at larger theatres scoring the best box-office performances.

All records were claimed at the Strand for "Key Largo" with Count Basie on the stage, on an estimated \$48,000 gross from Friday through Sunday, the highest weekend take-in the 34-year history of the house. Week's total should reach \$80,000, also a new mark.

"Street With No Name," with an ice show on stage at the Roxy is another huge success with \$111,000 reported for the first five days, indicating \$143,000 for the week ending tonight. A third newcomer, "Mickey," is mild at the Gotham where \$10,000 is apparent for the first week.

The rest are holdovers and tops among them are "The Emperor Waltz," with a stage show at the Music Hall, fifth week, \$135,000; "Fort Apache," with Lena Horne in person, Capitol, fourth week, \$71,000; "Easter Parade," State, third week, \$58,000; "Foreign Affair," with Jo Stafford and others on stage, Paramount, third week, \$73,000; "Canyon City," Criterion, second week, \$20,000.

Second week of "Raw Deal" at the Victoria looks like \$16,000, which is good enough. "Melody Time" appears good for \$19,000 in an eighth week at the Astor. "The Crusaders" is fair at the Rivoli which expects \$16,000 for a third week. Second week of "Fury at Furnace Creek" is a slow one at the Globe, the take being estimated at \$11,000. "Man Eater of Kumaon" is off at the Winter Garden where \$10,000 is likely for a third week. "The Time of Your Life" is down to \$11,000 in an eighth week at the Mayfair.

Producers and Extras Start Negotiations

HOLLYWOOD, July 19.—Major studios here opened negotiations with the Screen Extras Guild for a new contract to replace their pact expiring on July 31. It is expected an agreement will be reached before expiration.

Matthews Aide to Fay

PROVIDENCE, July 19. — Willard Matthews of Scranton, Pa., has been named assistant to Edward M. Fay, general manager of the C. and F. Theatre Corp., which controls the Fay, Majestic and Carlton theatres in Providence. Matthews has for the last 19 years been associated with the Comerford Theatres in Scranton.

Fine on ITO Board

COLUMBUS, O., July 19.—Independent Theatre Owners of Ohio's board of directors has elected Myer S. Fine of Associated Theatres, a board member to succeed the late John B. Kalafat.

Personal Mention

J. ROBERT RUBIN, M-G-M, vice-president and general counsel, has returned to New York from Hollywood.

IKE and **HARRY KATZ**, heads of Kay Film Exchanges in the South, were in Washington yesterday and will be at the Hotel Astor here today through Thursday.

RUDY BERGER, M-G-M Southern sales manager, has returned to his Washington headquarters from a business trip to Jacksonville, Fla.

SAUL KARP, assistant manager of Loew's Poli, at Springfield, Mass., is on a leave of absence. **HOLLIS W. SWEENEY** is relieving him.

F. J. A. MCCARTHY, Universal-International Southern and Canadian sales manager, is en route to Dallas from New York.

BERNARD J. GATES, Monogram International, has arrived in Caracas, Venezuela, and will next travel to Trinidad.

HOWARD PADOWITZ, assistant manager of Loew's Poli Palace, Hartford, has returned to his desk following sick leave.

GLADYS NUNCIE of Monogram International's New York office, has been married to **HAROLD W. THOMPSON**.

EDGAR LYNCH, manager of the Warner Sherman Theatre, New Haven, is vacationing in Virginia Beach, Va.

RUSSELL MORGAN of the Shelby Theatre, Louisville, has left that city for a Benton Harbor, Mich., vacation.

SUGAR SEIGEL, of the 20th-Fox San Francisco exchange, is a member of the U. S. Olympic swimming team.

LEO MCCAREY, producer-director, has returned to Hollywood after six weeks in New York.

'IA', Studios Modify Contracts of 6 Crafts

HOLLYWOOD, July 19.—Major producers and the IATSE jointly announce an agreement to modify contracts for costumers, lamp operators, film editors, grips, property men and first aid-workers to apply the so-called "Haliburton Formula," recently approved by the Supreme Court, instead of the prevailing "galloping rate." Statement says the change establishes a "more simplified method of payment," but does not effect any change in wages.

'Babe Ruth' Dinner

George E. Ruppert, board chairman of Jacob Ruppert Brewery, will be host to members of the press and others at a dinner to be held at the Ruppert Brewery here tomorrow evening, to be followed by a preview of the Allied Artists-Roy Del Ruth production of "The Babe Ruth Story."

MAX E. YOUNGSTINE, Eagle-Lion advertising-publicity vice-president will leave here today for a trip to New Haven, Philadelphia and Washington.

LOU BROWN, advertising-publicity manager of Loew's Poli New England Theatres, New Haven, and his family are on a trip to Washington and Maryland.

GEORGE A. SMITH, Paramount's Western division sales manager, is in San Francisco from Los Angeles for conferences at the company's branch there.

JOHN A'MATO, manager of the Palace Theatre in New Britain, Conn., is recuperating in General Hospital in that city following a kidney operation.

HOWARD STRICKLING, M-G-M Coast studio publicity head, will sail from Southampton on the *SS Queen Mary* on August 7 en route to the Coast.

JAMES B. WILLIAMS, his writing assignment for M-G-M completed, sails tomorrow on the *SS Mauretania* for his home in England.

GEORGE E. LANDERS, Hartford division manager for E. M. Loew Theatres, will leave that city this week for a vacation in Los Angeles.

EDWARD M. SAUNDERS, M-G-M assistant general sales manager, is due here today from a vacation in Maine.

JULES NEEDLEMAN, Columbia traveling home office representative, is in San Francisco from New York.

J. M. BETTENCOURT, formerly with Paramount, has joined Favorite Films in San Francisco as salesman.

WALTER B. LLOYD, manager of the Allyn Theatre, Hartford, has returned from a Tampa vacation.

OSCAR A. DOOB, Loew's circuit executive, is back at his desk from a Mercer, Wis., vacation.

Fabian Calls Drive-in Patent 'Invalid, Void'

WILMINGTON, July 19.—The Hollingshead patent is termed "invalid and void" by Fabian Enterprises and Fabian Securities in answer to charges of patent infringement filed in U. S. District Court here by Park-In Theatres of Camden, N. J.

Park-In has been licensing territories for the construction of drive-ins and claiming royalties under the patent, which was assigned to the plaintiff by Richard M. Hollingshead, Jr., in 1933. It is charged that Fabian failed to pay royalties or apply for licenses although its drive-ins embody the Hollingshead patent features.

Dismissal of the suit is sought by the defendants, who hold that the patent is void because Hollingshead is not the original inventor and the invention is not patentable.

Coming Events

July 22 — Independent Theatre Owners Association annual party, Portchester, N. Y.

July 24-25 — Metropolitan Motion Picture Theatre Owners meeting, Lake Placid, N. Y.

July 26-28 — Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana annual convention, French Lick Springs Hotel, French Lick, Ind.

Aug. 3-4 — North Central Allied meetings: Aug. 3 at Fargo, N. D., and Aug. 4 at Devil's Lake, Minn.

Aug. 16 — International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees bi-annual convention, Cleveland Public Auditorium, Cleveland, O.

Sept. 14-15 — Independent Theatre Owners of Ohio convention, Deshler-Wallick Hotel, Columbus, O.

Sept. 16-18 — International Variety Clubs' mid-year convention, Statler Hotel, Washington, D. C.

Sept. 24-25 — Theatre Owners of America convention, Drake Hotel, Chicago.

NEW YORK THEATRES

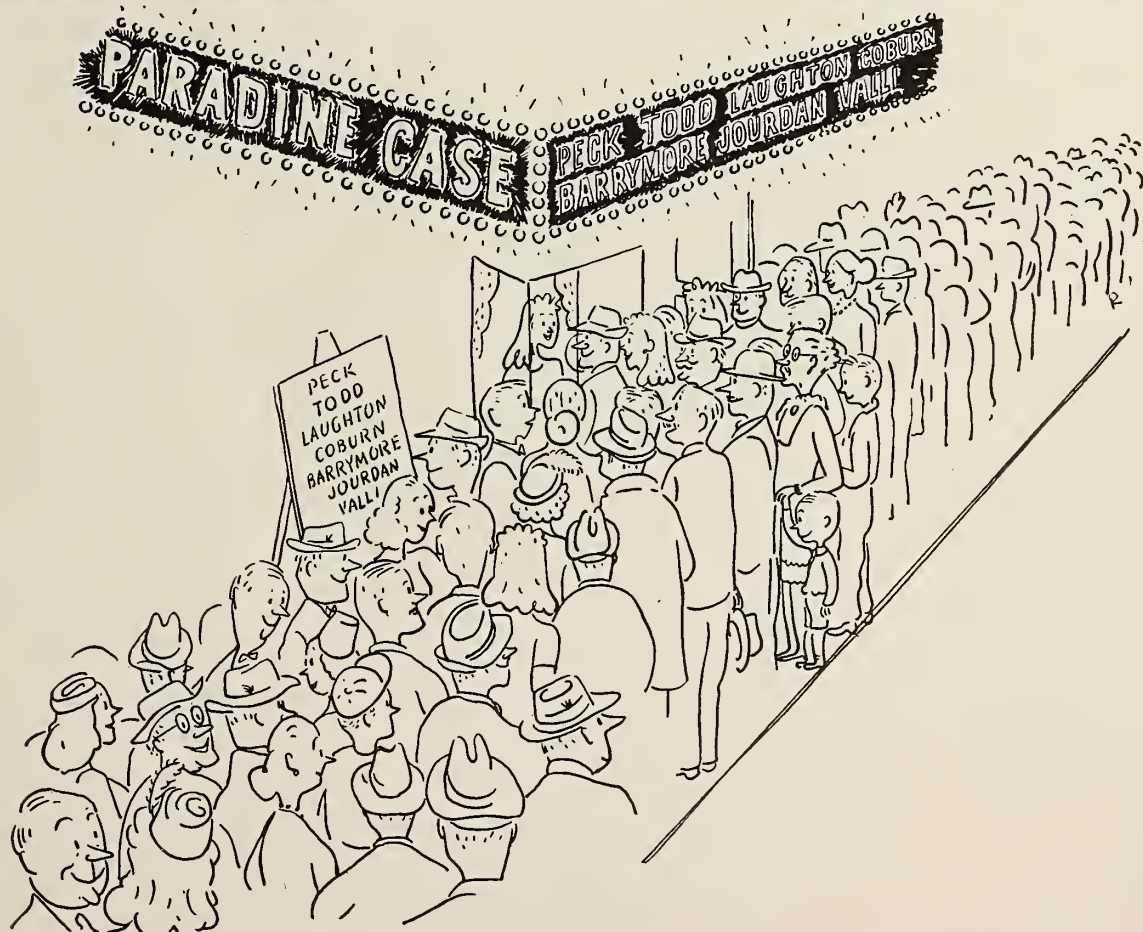
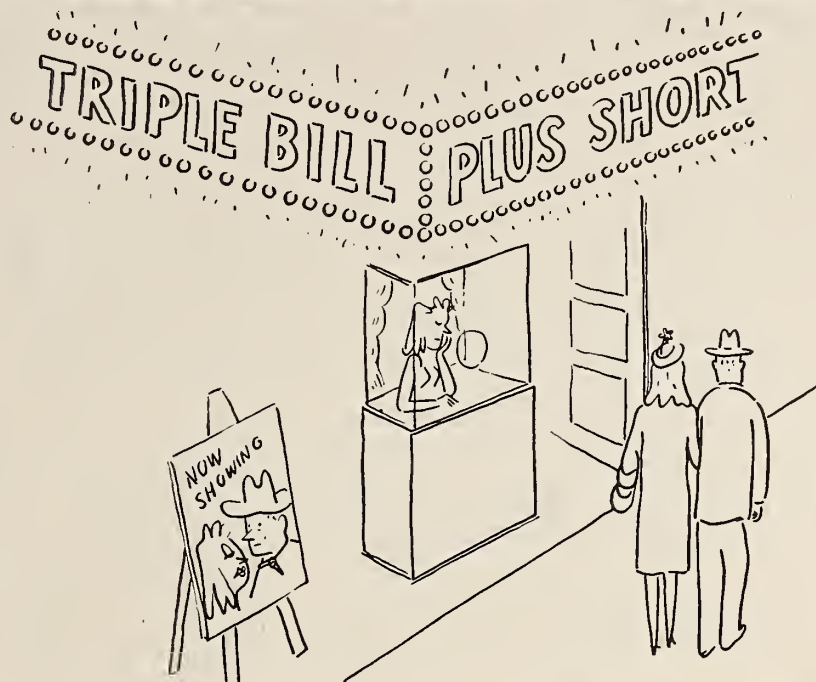
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Personal present
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JOHN FORD'S MASTERPIECE
"FORT APACHE"
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Take the PHILADELPHIA story for example—"SPELLBOUND," one of the biggest grossing pictures of all time, opened in Philly in boom times to a roaring \$23,800 the first week.—Last week, with the picture business cryin' the blues, "THE PARADINE CASE" opened to a smash **\$25,316.**

*Apologies to Ladies' Home Journal

13 New Films Start, Eight Are Finished

HOLLYWOOD, July 19.—The production index rose to 36, against last week's tally of 31. Thirteen films were launched, while eight were sent to cutting rooms.

Shooting started on "Strike It Rich" (Wrather), Allied Artists; "Triple Threat," Columbia; "The Big Cat" and "Red Stallion in the Rockies," Eagle-Lion; "The Luckiest Girl in the World," Enterprise; "Bowery Comeback" and "Sheriff of Medicine Bow," Monogram; "Streets of Laredo," Paramount; "Wake of the Red Witch," Republic; "Miss Mink of 1949" (Wurtzel), 20th Century-Fox; "Blondes Up" (Artists Alliance), and "The Lucky Stiff" (Amusement Enterprises), United Artists; "The Fountainhead," Warner.

Shooting finished on "Song of India" (Gibraltar), Columbia; "Inner Sanctum" (M.R.S.), Film Classics; "Act of Violence," Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer; "Yellow Sky," 20th Century-Fox; "Cover-Up" (Nasser), United Artists; "You Gotta Stay Happy" (Rampart), Universal-International; "Night Beat," "Look for the Silver Lining," Warner.

11 New Pictures Rated by Legion

M-G-M's "A Date with Judy," and Monogram's "Range Renegades," "16 Fathoms Deep" and "Triggerman" have been given A-I ratings by the National Legion of Decency. Classified A-II are: U-I's "Hamlet," Monogram's "Michael O'Halloran," Paramount's "Night Has a Thousand Eyes," Warner's "Night Unto Night," United Artists' "The Pitfall," U-I's "Tap Roots" and Republic's "Train to Alcatraz."

Revisions in Descina Films' "The Eternal Return" have resulted in a change of classification from C to B.

Canada Will Watch Cooperative Plan

OTTAWA, July 19.—Though a cooperative deal has been made between Ottawa and Hollywood whereby film imports from the U. S. will not be curtailed in face of Canada's acute shortage of American dollars, in consideration for more shorts and features, being made on location by U. S. producers in Canada, it is emphasized here that the progress of the plan will be assessed periodically to adjudge if it is accomplishing its purpose.

Reviews

"The Velvet Touch"

(Independent Artists-RKO Radio)

ROSALIND RUSSELL'S first production for Independent Artists, the company she owns in partnership with her husband, Frederick Brisson, and Dudley Nichols, comes along as corroborative proof—if any were needed after "Mourning Becomes Electra"—that she is mistress not only of light comedy, the field in which she acquired unexcelled fame, but also of emotional drama. Her performance, with which she proves the point is clearly the selling point to be stressed by showmen offering the attraction, which looks a little likelier for metropolitan situations than elsewhere. It is a murder story concerning Broadway stage people, and set mainly in a Broadway theatre. It compares more directly with "A Double Life," as to kind, than to other product of recent vintage.

Miss Russell portrays a Broadway star who accidentally kills her manager, with whom she wishes to break contractual relations, and decides to keep the fact a secret. Another actress, Claire Trevor, is prostrated on discovery of the manager's body, and while in a coma is assessed with guilt of his murder. Reviving after protracted hospitalization, Miss Trevor tells Miss Russell she knows who did the killing but realizes she will be wrongly convicted on circumstantial evidence, and thereupon commits suicide. Miss Russell decides to allow the dead girl to bear the burden of her guilt, and goes on to scale the heights of stage success, but finally the mounting pressure of conscience moves her to voluntary confession.

Miss Russell's powerful portrayal of the emotional stresses accruing from the killing gives the picture its principal value, although Miss Trevor, Leo Genn, Sydney Greenstreet, Leon Ames, Frank McHugh and others are competent in roles that build up the central interest. Brisson produced and John Gage directed, each making his debut in the indicated capacity, from a script by Leo Rosten based on a story by William Mercer and Annabel Ross.

Running time, 97 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, not set.

Hollywood, July 19

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

"Music Man"

(Monogram)

THE presence and participation of Jimmy Dorsey and his band in this 66-minute combining of comedy and song gives an exploitation-minded showman something extra for his marquee, and the film's appeal is to the age-group which responds to danceband appeal. It is light stuff, based on a somewhat novel premise, and contains five song numbers which are fitted into the flow of the narrative.

The original screenplay by Sam Mintz presents Phil Brito and Freddie Stewart as brothers who have been successful in the songwriting business together, one writing the lyrics and the other the music, but who fare badly when they go their separate ways after a quarrel concerning a girl. Finally their secretary, June Preisser, aided by their mother, gets them into unknowning collaboration on a musical show—by pretending to each that the other collaborator is another person—and the brothers eventually make up. The romantic angles also get taken care of in the finale.

Produced and directed by Will Jason, with Maurice Duke as associate producer, it is among the best of the offerings in what has been known heretofore as the "Teen Agers" series. Others in the cast are Alan Hale, Jr., Noel Neill, Grazia Narisco, Chick Chandler, Norman Leavitt, Helen Woodford, Gertrude Astor.

Running time, 66 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

Hollywood, July 19

P.A. Waxman Plans Films

Philip A. Waxman, stage producer, has arranged for Irving Rapper, currently directing the William Bacher-David O. Selznick film, "If This Be My Harvest," to direct the film "Dreadful Summit," which Waxman will produce this fall in Hollywood. The picture is being written by Peter Berneis. It is budgeted at \$600,000. Waxman has returned to New York to complete plans for a road tour this fall of "Strange Bedfellows," and will go back to Hollywood at the end of the month to negotiate with a major studio for the production of a film version of "Bedfellows," rights to which he recently acquired.

Porter, Fairbanks in Team

HOLLYWOOD, July 19.—Cole Porter and Douglas Fairbanks have been working quietly for the last month on an idea for a musical with a modern setting which they hope to have in shape for the cameras next year. Fairbanks will play one of the starring roles, the photography will be in Technicolor and the production will be made by Fairbanks.

Geo. Thomas On His Own

George Thomas, Jr., formerly director of publicity for Lou Bunin Productions, and now in Paris, has formed his own organization there with a U. S. tieup through the public relations firm of Gould-Frank in New York. The joint set-up will operate an international service for personalities who are making trips to Europe on visiting tours or for professional engagements.

New Columbus Suburban

COLUMBUS, O., July 19.—A 1,000-seat theatre will be part of a \$1,500,000 shopping office, amusement and residential development announced by C. S. Kennedy, Ohio builder, to be located in suburban Clintonville.

Another Col'bus Drive-in

COLUMBUS, O., July 19.—Boasting the largest screen of any Ohio drive-in, new CCC Auto Theatre has been opened here by Frank Yassenoff and Harold Schwartz; they also operate the Riverside and Eastside drive-ins here.

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY correspondents. Estimates omit admission tax.

CINCINNATI

"Abbott and Costello Meet Frankenstein" is giving Keith's its best week in many months with an approximate 125 per cent over average. Grosses at most other houses are heading for plus par figures. Weather continues extremely hot. Estimated receipts for the week ending July 20:

ABBOTT AND COSTELLO MEET FRANKENSTEIN (U-I)—KEITH'S (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-65c-75c). Gross: \$17,000. (Average: \$7,500).

THE EMPEROR WALTZ (Para.)—RKO SHUBERT (2,150) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 3rd week, following an initial week at the Albee and a first moveover week at the Shubert. Gross: \$7,200. (Average: \$5,000)

ON AN ISLAND WITH YOU (M-G-M)—RKO CAPITOL (12,000) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 3rd week. Gross: \$8,500. (Average: \$10,000)

ROMANCE ON THE HIGH SEAS (WB)—RKO PALACE (2,700) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: \$16,500. (Average: \$15,000)

THE STREET WITH NO NAME (20th-Fox)—RKO ALBEE (3,300) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: \$16,000. (Average: \$15,000)

UP IN CENTRAL PARK (U-I)—RKO LYRIC (1,400) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 3 days. 2nd week, on a moveover from the Albee.

TRAIL OF THE VIGILANTES (U-I reissue)—RKO LYRIC (1,400) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 4 days. Dualed with **BADLANDS OF DAKOTA (U-I reissue)** Combined gross: \$4,800. (Average, 7 days: \$5,000)

WALLFLOWER (WB)—RKO GRAND (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) Dualed with **THE BIG PUNCH (WB)**. Gross: \$6,500. (Average: \$8,000)

BALTIMORE

Hot, humid weather and holdovers presented the customary business-boost on opening days. The weekend failed to bring any big improvement. As a result, figures for most of downtown first-run theatres are barely average this week. Estimated receipts for the week ending July 22:

ASSIGNED TO DANGER (E L)—HIPPODROME (2,205) (29c-37c-50c-58c) With a stage show. Gross: \$19,250. (Average: \$17,500)

EASTER PARADE (M-G-M)—CENTURY (3,000) (29c-37c-45c-65c and 56c weekends) 2nd week. Gross: \$16,000. (Average: \$14,500)

MAN-EATER OF KUMAON (U-I)—KEITH'S (2,406) (25c-37c-44c-54c and 56c weekends). Gross: \$9,000. Average: \$12,000

MELODY TIME (RKO Radio)—TOWN (1,450) (29c-37c-56c). Gross: \$12,500. (Average: \$11,000)

ON AN ISLAND WITH YOU (M-G-M)—VALENCIA (1,466) (29c-37c-45c-54c and 56c weekends) 3rd week. Gross: \$4,000. (Average: \$5,000)

PANIC (Allied Films)—LITTLE (328) (29c-37c-56c). Gross: \$2,500. (Average: \$3,000)

STREET WITH NO NAME (20th-Fox)—NEW (1,800) (29c-40c-50c-58c) 2nd week. Gross: \$9,500. (Average: \$11,750)

THE CRUSADES (Para. re-release)—MAYFAIR (1,000) (21c-29c-54c). Gross: \$4,000. (Average: \$5,000)

THE EMPEROR WALTZ (Para.)—STANLEY (3,280) (29c-37c-50c-58c) 3rd week. Gross: \$10,500. (Average: \$14,500)

Lane Opens Another

LOUISVILLE, July 19.—Formal opening of the new Lane Theatre built for Foster Lane was held in Williamsburg, Kentucky. Seating more than 600, the Lane is the second theatre in Williamsburg; the Dixie, the other theatre, is also owned by Lane.

OF COURSE



"TEXAS, BROOKLYN and HEAVEN"
sent from UA

Sees Video Using 3,650 Hrs. of Films

Television will use a minimum of 3,650 hours of film annually in the future, presenting an opportunity which the motion picture and video industries "can anticipate with high enthusiasm," according to W. W. Watts, RCA vice-president.

Watts bases his prediction on radio's system of operations, specifically the programs of network origin which, he estimates, are broadcast by affiliated stations five hours per day throughout the year.

Isidore Seider of Prudential Is Dead

Isidore Seider, 65, treasurer of Prudential Theatres and owner of Prudential Film Distributors, died here yesterday morning. Services will be held this morning at Park West Chapel in Manhattan, with interment in Baron Hirsch Cemetery, Staten Island. Offices of the Prudential circuit will be closed all day today as a tribute to Seider.

Among survivors are two brothers, Joseph M. and Max, and three sons, Morris, Edward and Seymour, all of whom are active in Prudential.

Rites Tomorrow for Dubinsky, Retired

KANSAS CITY, July 19.—Funeral services will be held at the Louis Chapel here on Wednesday for Barney Dubinsky, 56, retired Mid-West circuit operator and brother of Edward R. Durwood, head of the Mid-West's Durwood Theatres. Dubinsky died Sunday in Tucson, Ariz. He retired from active business in 1936.

Another brother, Maurice Dubinsky, died in 1929. The three started in show business as tent show operators in the Mid-West 40 years ago.

Survivors include also the widow and two other brothers, William H. of Leavenworth, and Irvin of St. Joseph, Mo.

Mrs. Stanley Williams

OTTAWA, July 19.—Mrs. Stanley G. Williams, wife of the manager of the Capitol Theatre in Cornwall, and daughter of the late James Whitham who founded the Palace Amusement Co., died at her home in Cornwall at 58. Besides her husband she is survived by two daughters.

M. R. Dick, Distributor

MINNEAPOLIS, July 19.—M. R. Dick, 70, one of the first independent film distributors in the Minneapolis area, was buried in St. Paul following his death from a lingering illness. He was about 70. Dick started distributing state right films about 1910.

Film Salesmen Ask

(Continued from page 1)

salesmen of 11 distributors. A. M. Van Dyke, of Chicago, is president of the organization.

Meanwhile, the union has set November 27-28 for a national convention, scheduled to be held in Chicago.

Australia Grosses

(Continued from page 1)

commercial 16mms.

Average admission price in Australia is about 25 cents, he said, with top first-run admissions in Sydney running about 75 cents. Out of Australia's 7,500,000 population there are about 3,000,000 weekly admissions, he said. First foreign-language house recently opened in Melbourne, he said, and another one opened in Sydney about two weeks ago. New foreign language houses are expected to open soon in Brisbane and Adelaide.

Paper shortages in Australia are resulting in an increased use of radio for motion picture advertising, it was observed. Lotherington, who arrived here last week, will depart for Los Angeles in about two weeks, en route to home. While here, he discussed with RKO foreign executives the new 10-year extension contract signed between Hoyt's Theatres in Australia and RKO.

MPEA Defers Action

(Continued from page 1)

is not expected back for at least two weeks.

Being considered, among other things, is the establishment of an MPEA supervisory board which would govern all sales policy of the companies, jointly, but with the actual selling of pictures to be kept on a competitive basis. The action would be taken in consequence of Britain's new exhibitor quota which directs that British exhibitors reserve 45 per cent of their top-picture playing time for British product.

RKO Sales Meeting

(Continued from page 1)

gation from the home office, will be Western division manager Walter Branson, short subject sales manager Harry Michelson, A. A. Schubart, manager of exchange operations; Harry Gittleston, assistant to Branson; district chiefs Herb Greenblatt and Ray Nolan, and branch managers Sam Gorelick, Chicago; Lou Elman, Milwaukee; C. Dressell, Minneapolis; Sherm Fitch, Sioux Falls; Max Rosenblatt, Des Moines; Jimmy Lewis, Kansas City; A. A. Renfro, Omaha; Tom Williamson, St. Louis.

SGP Deals

(Continued from page 1)

turn of Wildfire" in Sepiatone, and "Jungle Goddess." A deal was also closed with Western Adventure Pictures for release of six Lash LaRue Westerns, of which "Mark of the Lash" and "Dead Man's Gold" are completed and awaiting release.

Holders from the entire U. S. and Canada attended.

Coast Variety Benefits

SAN FRANCISCO, July 19.—A "star-studded" benefit show will be staged at the Civic Auditorium here on July 25 by the local Variety Club in behalf of its project for blind babies, and another such performance will be held for the same purpose at the Oakland Arena on August 1, it is reported by Abe Blumenfeld, chief barker. Band leader Horace Heidt will be master-of-ceremonies on both occasions.

35% Quota

(Continued from page 1)

of Commons is expected to press Wilson on that issue tomorrow.

Meanwhile, Associated British Cinemas, Rank's rival, announced that its showings of Herbert Wilcox's "Spring in Park Lane" broke all records in the ABC circuit, thereby disconcerting the Rank organization in its "admission" that British picture grosses fall below those of American pictures on circuit runs here. Spokesmen for independents are applauding ABC's "shrewdly-timed rebuttal" of Rank's "alibi," and are awaiting the latter's reaction to the new development.

Major complaint of the independent exhibitors is that Rank's pictures have not grossed satisfactorily, whereas ABC, which does not distribute but nevertheless exhibits Wilcox pictures, now announces that Wilcox's films make money. This announcement, the independents hold, is the greatest shake yet given Rank's claim that he is entitled to give showmen pictures they should share.

To Dust Off Rio Law

RIO DE JANEIRO, July 15 (By Air-mail).—An old municipal regulation here limiting attendance at theatres to the number of seats will be enforced, police announce. The law had fallen into disuse during the last few years.

8,750 Detroit Video Sets

DETROIT, July 19.—Television receivers in the Detroit area total 8,750, with 1,600 in public places and dealers' stores, and 7,150 in homes.

16 m m . Films Will Distribute for Rank

TORONTO, July 19.—Sales and distribution of J. Arthur Rank educational, religious and other non-theatrical films, as well as substantial distribution of regular features throughout Canada will in the future be handled by J. Arthur Rank 16mm. Films, Ltd., it is announced by Oscar M. Hanson, general manager.

'Scully Month'

(Continued from page 1)

Duryea and Shelly, and "One Touch of Venus."

U-I's home office sales cabinet, including A. J. O'Keefe, assistant general sales manager; E. T. Gomersall, assistant to Scully; Fred Meyers, Eastern division sales manager; F. J. A. McCarthy, Southern and Canadian sales manager, and C. J. Feldman, Western sales manager, will take to the field during August for exchange rallies.

Jackson Park

(Continued from page 1)

grounds that Judge Igoe has no jurisdiction to reverse the decree which was confirmed by the Circuit Court of Appeals, although originally entered in Judge Igoe's U. S. District Court.

McConnell asserted that granting of the extension could set a precedent for future films in Chicago, thus injuring the decree and added that he hoped to get the "Waltz" issue straightened out for all.

READ...

what Ralph Branton says about "MICKEY"!



"The wonderful and exciting reception the Des Moines people gave Lois Butler at the premiere of 'Mickey' is indication to the industry that new people and new personalities are in great demand. The production 'Mickey' pleased the people greatly in its wholesomeness and freshness and should give a fine account of itself. You may be assured that in Lois Butler you have a new and excellent star capable of reaching great heights."

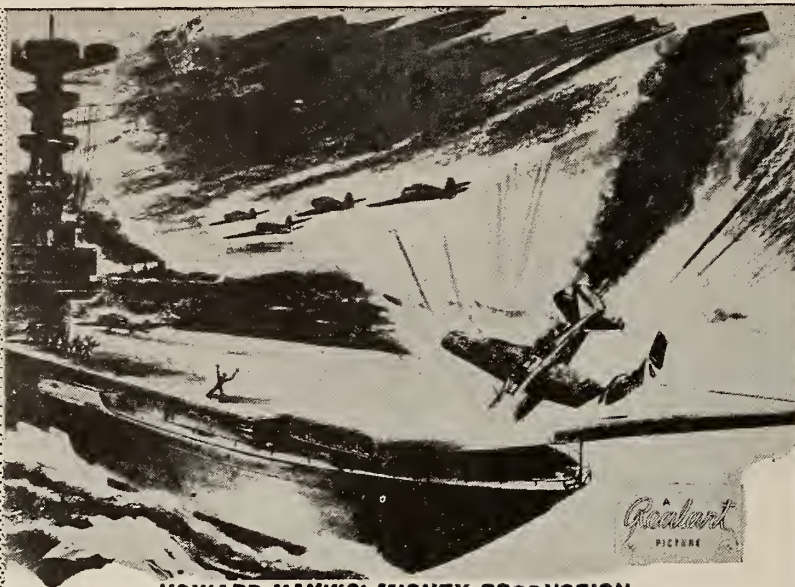
G. Ralph Branton
General Mgr. Tri-States Theatre Corp.

"MICKEY"

LOIS BUTLER as

IN CINECOLOR!

Presented by David W. Siegel
An EAGLE LION FILMS Release



HOWARD HAWKS' MIGHTY PRODUCTION

CORVETTE K-225

starring

RANDOLPH SCOTT • BARRY FITZGERALD
ROBERT MITCHUM • ELLA RAINES

RAY MILLAND *in*

WINGS OVER HONOLULU

with

WENDY BARRIE • WILLIAM GARGAN



BLOW
UP
YOUR
RECEIPTS
with these
ATOMIC
BOX-
OFFICE
BUSTERS!

ALREADY A TOP GROSSER
IN THESE SITUATIONS

NEW AMSTERDAM	NEW YORK CITY
ORPHEUM	ST. LOUIS
LOEW'S OHIO	CLEVELAND
GARRICK	CHICAGO
HARRIS SENATOR	PITTSBURGH
FIVE ACADEMIES	LOS ANGELES
ESQUIRE	TOLEDO
PLYMOUTH	WORCESTER, MASS.

and the following
New England Circuits:

LOEW'S, INC., M. & P. E. M. LOEW'S,
WARNER'S, B. & O. MAINE AND NEW
HAMPSHIRE, SNIDER, AFFILIATED
INTERSTATE, AND YAMENS

REALART PICTURES INC. • 2 PARK AVENUE • NEW YORK 16, N. Y.

Sues to Divest 20th, WB of 6 In Milwaukee

**First Action of Its Kind
In Chicago Territory**

CHICAGO, July 20.—A new anti-trust suit, asking for \$1,050,000 treble damages and the first in this territory to ask for a divestiture of defendant-owned first-run theatres—in this case 20th-Fox and Warner Brothers—based on the recent Supreme Court decision, was filed here today in District Court by the Milwaukee Towne Corp., operator of the Towne Theatre in Milwaukee, against six distributors Warner theatres and James E. Coston, head of Warner Theatres here.

The complaint charges that the Towne's downtown competitors, the

(Continued on page 6)

Tennessee Rental Levy Is Upheld

NASHVILLE, July 20.—Crescent Amusement Co. has lost its fight against paying the state's two per cent sales tax on film rentals, the Tennessee Supreme Court having affirmed a lower court decision to that effect. The court held that "rental of films is lease of tangible personal property within the meaning of our sales tax law and the correct measure of the tax is the gross amount of rent paid." For the first year, the state sales tax netted \$41,000,000, more than twice as much as government officials calculated.

Exhibitors' Trip to Rank in England Off

While neither side will voice any comment, it is understood that the proposed trip of independent American exhibitor leaders to England as the invited guests of J. Arthur Rank, is definitely off. They were supposed to make the trip this summer.

The exhibitors, it is said, have lost interest because of Rank's high-percentage rental difficulties with British independents and also because of his 45 per cent quota stand and its effect on American film interests.

U. S. Court Halts Ascap's Collections from Theatres

Salesmen Want Top Severance Of Year's Pay

Terms of the contract proposed by the Colosseum of Motion Picture Salesmen include maximum severance pay equal to one year's salary, \$90 weekly salary minimum, as well as a general increase of from 40 to 50 per cent, the latter as reported yesterday.

A. M. Van Dyke, president of the salesmen's organization, reported in Chicago yesterday that plans are underway for a meeting to be held in New York in about two weeks between distributors and the Colosseum to discuss the demands.

Van Dyke further reported the formation of a New York unit of the Colosseum, headed by Charles Penzer of the RKO exchange.

The Colosseum, it was learned yesterday, has included in its initial demands severance allowance of one week's salary after six months of employment, two weeks after one year's employment, with this graduated to

(Continued on page 6)

Vet's Administration In New Film Deals

WASHINGTON, July 20.—Fifteen distributors have signed contracts with the Veterans Administration to supply 16 and 35mm. films to be shown to patients in VA hospitals and homes, F. R. Kerr, assistant administrator for VA's Special Services, announces. Contracts cover the fiscal year ending June 30, 1949.

The 35mm. films, generally exhibited

(Continued on page 6)

Toronto Will Promote Film Public Relations

TORONTO, July 20.—The motion picture branch of the Toronto Board of Trade has appointed a committee to establish a public relations bureau for the whole film industry in the Dominion because of the growing complexity of government regulations and

(Continued on page 6)

Says Producers Should Clear Performing Rights; Holds Ascap Violated Anti-Trust Laws But Denies Damages to ITOA of N. Y.

Ascap was ruled a monopoly and was enjoined from collecting music performing rights fees from theatres in a decision issued yesterday by Judge Vincent L. Leibell in the anti-trust action brought in U. S. District Court here against the society by Alden-Rochelle, Inc., and 163 other members of the Independent Theatre

Owners Association of New York.

The exhibitor plaintiffs were granted injunctive relief by the court on the grounds that "the power which Ascap has acquired in violation of the anti-trust laws and which Ascap attempted to use in August, 1947, in a way that would have increased, many times, the license fees charged exhibitors for the right to perform publicly for profit musical compositions synchronized on films, is a constant threat which may cause loss or damage to the plaintiffs."

The plaintiff's claim for treble damages was turned down by the court, which held that testimony had failed to prove financial injury to theatres.

Judge Leibell found that "almost every part of the Ascap structure, almost all of Ascap's activities in licensing motion picture theatres, involve a violation of the anti-trust laws."

"Although each member of Ascap

(Continued on page 4)

U.S. Calls Some U.N. Film Agents 'Spies'

Washington, July 20.—Foreign espionage agents in the guise of film and radio experts have been entering this country with United Nations delegations, two State Department officials told a Senate judiciary sub-committee today. Robert C. Alexander and R. Clyde Larkin of the visa division said film press and radio officers have come in freely and have been unobserved while here. Among them, he said, are some Moscow-trained operators.

Sharp Bldg. Code Debate Due Today

ALBANY, N. Y., July 20.—Harry Lamont up-state drive-in owner, today assailed as "onerous" a number of the requirements stipulated in the proposed revisions in the New York State building code, thus setting the stage for heated discussions when the new code comes up for a public hearing tomorrow in New York.

Lamont, who owns four drive-ins

(Continued on page 6)

Eastern Penn. Allied Will Buy and Book

PHILADELPHIA, July 20.—Elmer Hollander of Producers Releasing Corp., and former manager of the Stanton Theatre, has joined Eastern Pennsylvania Allied, as head of a new buying and booking service which will begin operating here in about six weeks.

Ascap Appeal of Decision Likely

Ascap officials said here yesterday that while no formal decision had yet been made it is a foregone conclusion that Judge Vincent Leibell's ruling in the ITOA case will be appealed to the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

The Ascap officials said that their study of the decision had not been completed and therefore they had no comment at this time. It was clear that Judge Leibell's decision was completely unexpected in the Ascap camp.

Newsreel Parade

THE funeral of Gen. Pershing and the shooting of Togliatti are highlighted in current newsreels. Also presented is the new truce in Palestine, Leo Durocher in his new Giants' job, and several other items of national and international significance. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 58—Security Council forces Palestine truce. Nation mourns Gen. Pershing. Dixiecrat convention. The East-West crisis. Rome: Shooting of Togliatti. Baseball: Leo Durocher, new manager of the Giants. Racing.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 292—America's tribute to Gen. Pershing. Showdown near in Berlin. Togliatti shot. Anti-Truman forces. Leo Durocher, manager of the Giants. Football on the way.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 95—New truce in Palestine. States Rights convention names ticket. Leo Durocher. Gen. Pershing laid to rest.

UNIVERSAL NEWS, No. 162—Dixiecrat Gov. Thurmond has State's Rights slate. Gen. Pershing buried at Arlington. Count Bernadotte leaves New York for Rhodes. Big blast in Bristol, Va. Los Angeles—spring training. Air show in Chattanooga.

WARNER PATHE NEWS, No. 97—Togliatti shot. UN wins new Palestine truce. Nation mourns Gen. Pershing. Rebel Democrats' name on ticket. People in the news: Andrei Gromyko, Josefine Guerrero, Anthony Eden. Big League surprise—Durocher. Log-rolling champs.

Herman Mankiewicz Leaves RKO Studio

HOLLYWOOD, July 20.—Herman Mankiewicz checked off the RKO Radio lot today following the cancellation of "The Life of Johnny Broderick," which was to be his last assignment under his contract. Mankiewicz was to do the script and produce.

M. and P.'s Esquire Will Show Telecasts

BOSTON, July 20.—First theatre in Boston to be a television theatre will be M. and P.'s Esquire. Plans and costs have already been approved by the circuit's executives. M. and P. is a subsidiary of Paramount.

Wilson "Impressed" By CEA Arguments

London, July 20.—Reportedly impressed by the Cinematograph Exhibitor Association's arguments delivered here yesterday, British Board of Trade president Harold Wilson is said to have increased his determination to promote strong independent production here to offset J. Arthur Rank's position of advantage. He is currently engaged in a series of discussions with Sir Stafford Cripps on avenues of financing for independents, but is reported to be "uncertain" as to when he will be able to make an announcement on the subject.

Personal Mention

G. L. CARRINGTON, Altec president, has arrived here from Hollywood.

CHARLES E. KESSNICH, M-G-M district manager, and **RUDY BERGER**, Southern sales manager, are due here on Sunday from Atlanta and Washington, respectively.

JOHN P. MASTERS, Crescent Amusement Co. manager in Bowling Green, Ky., has been named to the board of regents of Western Kentucky State Teachers College.

DORE SCHARY, M-G-M production vice-president, will arrive in Chicago tomorrow from Denver and Hollywood.

SIDNEY FRANKLIN, M-G-M producer, is en route to New York from Hollywood. He will sail for Paris on Friday.

BEN KALMENSEN, Warners distribution vice-president, and **BERNARD GOODMAN**, exchange supervisor, left here yesterday for Toronto.

BILL STERN, sports and newsreel commentator, and **MRS. STERN**, will sail today for London and the Olympic Games.

JAMES MULVEY, president of Samuel Goldwyn Productions, is in Hollywood from New York.

JACK CUMMINGS, M-G-M producer, is here from the Coast.

JERRY HOFFMAN of Independent Artists is due in New York on Sunday from Hollywood.

LES MARTINSON, assistant to M-G-M director **SAM WOOD**, is en route to Boston from the Coast.

VALENTINE CORTESE, Italian film star now under contract to 20th-Fox, will fly to Hollywood today.

JAY EISENBERG of M-G-M's legal department is in Columbus, O., from here.

JOHN BOLES, screen and stage star, and **MRS. BOLES**, will leave New York for England today.

Exhibitors Attack Difficult Tax Forms

TORONTO, July 20.—The Motion Picture Theatres Association of Ontario has formally protested to Provincial Treasurer L. M. Frost over the complicated make-up of the monthly four-page report form for the new 20 per cent amusement tax in Ontario. When the province had its previous 10 per cent ticket tax, before the war, the monthly report consisted of only one page for the entry of daily tax proceeds. This time there are many questions and a variety of tabulations.

The association reported it had received scores of complaints from exhibitors who asked for a simplified form.

MARGARET TILLEY, assistant manager of the Center Theatre, Hartford, will be married on Saturday to William Madigan of that city's police force.

R. B. TARA, former manager of the Sequoia in Redwood City, Cal., has been transferred to the State in Watsonville, Cal., succeeding **KENNETH KUCERA**, transferred to the El Rey in Salinas.

LES PETERSON, in charge of radio activities at the M-G-M studio, has returned to Hollywood following meetings in Chicago and Minneapolis with **WILLIAM R. FERGUSON**, the company's director of exploitation.

HARRY LOUD, member of the M-G-M studio advertising staff, is in Omaha on "City of Little Men" business.

ARTHUR HORNBLOW, JR., M-G-M producer, will fly to New York from the Coast on Friday en route to Portland, Me.

CHARLES FISH has been named manager of the Madison in Madison, Conn.

HOMER TEGTMEIER and **ROTUS HARVEY** have left San Francisco on a fishing trip.

DOROTHY KINGSLEY, M-G-M writer, is back on the Coast from New York.

HENRY BOEHM of the State Theatre, Hartford, will be off on a Canadian vacation on Aug. 1.

JOHN SCANLAN, manager of the Warner Theatre, Torrington, Conn., has ended a fishing vacation.

FRANCIS WHITE, president of Screen Guild, Charlotte, has returned there from Atlanta.

MEL BROWN, manager of the Peachtree Art Theatre, Atlanta, is visiting here.

HARRY GORDON, head of National Theatres Enterprises, Jacksonville, has returned there from Atlanta.

Monthly Film Imports Decline in Canada

OTTAWA, July 20.—The External Trade Branch of the Canadian Government reports imports of films slumped to \$243,000 in May, compared with \$290,000 in May a year ago. Imports, however, increased to \$1,412,000 in the first five months of 1948, against \$1,143,000 in the corresponding period last year.

Columbia Dividend

Columbia Pictures announces a quarterly dividend of 1.06¼ per share on the \$4.25 cumulative preferred stock, payable August 16 to stockholders of record on August 2.

Switzerland Cuts Film Imports 10%

WASHINGTON, July 20.—Importation of films into Switzerland has been reduced by 10 per cent since June 1, the Department of Commerce revealed here in a report for publication tomorrow. Motion picture consultant Nathan D. Golden relates that the Swiss Film Chamber has explained the move as an attempt to eliminate flooding of the film market.

It was implied that the reduction might have been larger but for the anticipated increase in theatres from a post-war figure of about 350 to an estimated 400 by the end of this year.

The Chamber has also given some consideration to legal curbs on foreign production, as a move to protect Swiss production. No solution has been worked out, Golden said, but the consideration given the matter is "indicative of the tendency in this country to curb competition of foreign films."

Over half of the features released in Switzerland last year—221 of 439—were of U. S. origin, with 97 French, 36 Italian, 29 British, 12 Australian, 12 Mexican, 10 Russian and 22 others.

Hersholt Re-elected Head of Relief Fund

HOLLYWOOD, July 20.—The Motion Picture Relief Fund tonight re-elected Jean Hersholt president, George Bag-nall treasurer, and most other officers and board members.

The Fund's annual report showed that aid was provided for a total of 7,924 cases during the year, the largest number in the Fund's history. Total expenses of \$789,319 were offset by income of \$660,299 from individuals who had allocated one-half per cent of their wages, plus \$157,062 from the radio program and other sources, giving an income-over-expenses net excess of \$37,042 for the year.

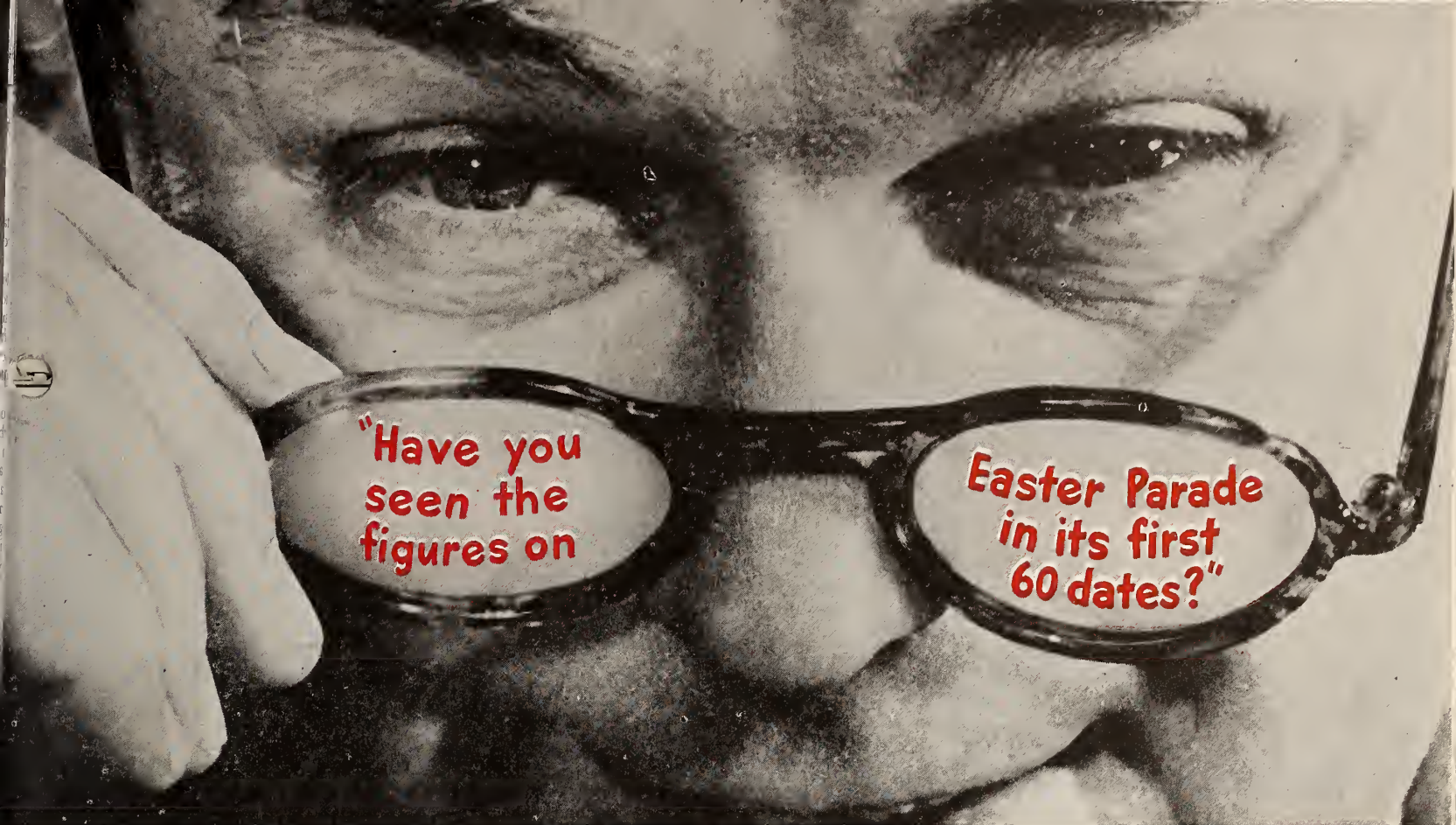
Albany Sets Drive For Hospital Fund

ALBANY, N. Y., July 20.—The Albany exchange district has been organized in a drive to raise funds for the Will Rogers Memorial Hospital, Saranac Lake, N. Y., Ray Smith, Warner manager, is general chairman of the committee in charge which includes Eugene Vogel, Universal International; Jack Bulwinkle, Columbia; Edward J. Wall, Paramount. Film salesmen will enlist the support of exhibitors.

Shartin Is Named F. C. District Chief

William Shartin has been named Film Classics district manager of the Portland-Seattle territory, replacing Jack Kloepper, who resigned. B. G. Kranze, distribution vice-president announces.

Shartin was with Warner for 19 years and for a long period was district manager out of Chicago. He also was Eastern division manager for Eagle-Lion, which position he left to accept his new assignment.



“EASTER PARADE’ IS THE BIGGEST M-G-M HIT IN YEARS!”

“Does it beat ‘Green Dolphin Street’?” **YES!**

“Does it beat ‘Cass Timberlane’?” **YES!**

“Does it beat ‘Homecoming’?” **YES!**

“Is it M-G-M policy to give showmen the Big Ones when they need them most?” **YES!**

★

M-G-M presents IRVING BERLIN'S "EASTER PARADE" Starring JUDY GARLAND • FRED ASTAIRE • Peter Lawford • Ann Miller
Color by TECHNICOLOR • Screen Play by Sidney Sheldon, Frances Goodrich and Albert Hackett • Original Story by Frances Goodrich
and Albert Hackett • Lyrics and Music by Irving Berlin • Musical numbers directed by Robert Alton • Directed by CHARLES WALTERS
Produced by ARTHUR FREED • A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture

Ascap's 300% Increase Demand Cited

Court Holds It Revealed Illegal Power

(Continued from page 1)

is granted by the copyright law a monopoly in the copyrighted work," the court said, "it is unlawful for the owners of a number of copyrighted works to combine their copyrights by any agreement or arrangement, even if it is for the purpose of thereby better preserving their property rights."

Judge Leibell said that evidence in the case had shown "Ascap in the course of 34 years has built up a monopoly of the music that is used in the production of motion pictures," and in so doing it has violated the anti-trust laws. The court asserted the fact that Ascap has the power to raise prices or to exclude competition establishes the society as a monopoly.

"The combination of the members of Ascap in transferring all their non-dramatic performing rights to Ascap," Judge Leibell said, "is a combination in restraint of interstate trade and commerce. . . . It restrains competition among the members of Ascap in marketing the performing rights of their copyrighted works. And by barring a member from assigning the performing rights to the motion picture producer at the same time that the recording right is assigned, the channels in which the films may be marketed is narrowed to those exhibitors who have a license from Ascap covering the performing rights of the Ascap music synchronized on the film."

It is maintained that "the arrangement by which the producers consent that there be specifically reserved to Ascap the right to license the performing rights is supplemented by a provision in the contract between the distributor of motion pictures and the exhibitors which limits the public ex-

(Continued in column 4)

Suit Against Ascap Filed in April, '42

The anti-trust action against the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers was filed by Alden-Rochelle, Inc., and other New York territory independent theatre owners in Federal Court, New York, on April 9, 1942. The case lay dormant between July, 1943, and August, 1946. There was a pre-trial hearing before Federal Judge John Knox in December, 1947, and the case came to trial early in March of this year, before Judge Vincent Leibell.

Text of Injunction Issued Against Ascap by U.S. Court

"The conduct of Ascap in notifying the theatre exhibitors in August 1947 that the rates for an Ascap license would be increased to such an extent that some theatres would be required to pay 15 times as much as the license fees under which they had been operating since 1934, is an indication of the power that Ascap has unlawfully acquired by its own arrangements with its members and by their arrangements with the motion picture producers. The threatened use of that power to demand unfair and exorbitant license fees furnishes sufficient grounds for the exercise by the court of its ordinary equitable powers to prevent any threatened injury to plaintiffs. The Clayton Act (15 U.S.C. §26) "does not go farther than to give an injunction to private persons against threatened loss" (Mr. Justice Holmes in *Fleitman v. Welsbach Co.*, 240 U. S. 27 at p. 29). To avail himself of §26 a plaintiff must show threatened injury for which he is without adequate remedy and for which a court of equity is able to provide a remedy. (Dissenting opinion of Chief Justice Stone in *Georgia v. Pennsylvania R. Co.*, 324 U. S. 439 at p. 475). The Clayton Act "gives to private parties a right to relief by injunction in any court of the United States against threatened loss or damage by a violation of the anti-trust laws, under the conditions and principles regulating the granting of such relief by courts of equity". *Duplex Co. v. Deering*, 254 U. S. 443 at pp. 464-5. It has been held that prior to the passage of the Clayton Act in 1914, "a private party could not maintain a suit for injunction" under the Sherman Act. *Duplex Co. v. Deering*, 254 U. S. 443, 465.

In the case at bar Ascap and various groups or organizations of exhibitors in February 1948 arrived at a new set of rates which represented an average increase of 25% to 30% over the 1934 rates. The August 1947 demands were abandoned by Ascap. Plaintiffs have been offered the same type of contract (a long term contract) that other exhibitors accepted in February 1948. Does this remove the need for injunctive relief? I have concluded that it does not. Plaintiffs are entitled to have this court exercise its equitable powers to prevent a recurrence of what happened in August 1947 and to have their rights adjudicated and protected by a decree of the court, because the unlawful arrangements between Ascap and its members, and between the members and the motion picture producers, is a continuing one and is a clear violation of the anti-trust laws.

The Defense of "Unclean Hands"

Defendants have pleaded as a special defense that a great number of the plaintiffs are themselves a monopoly and therefore are barred from equitable relief on the doctrine of "unclean hands". Brandt, who owns a majority interest in 53 theatres also buys films for 90 other theatres. The Supreme Court has condemned combinations of exhibitors and has pointed out the evil practices of such combinations and the unlawful advantages they have been able to obtain through their practice of group buying. *U. S. v. Crescent Amusement Co. et al.*, 323 U. S. 174; *U. S. v. L. C. Griffith et al.* (decided by the Supreme Court May 3, 1948); *Schine Chain Theatres Inc. et al. v. U. S.* (decided by the Supreme Court May 3, 1948). Brandt's testimony indicates that he has obtained some of those advantages. But the alleged anti-trust violations of a plaintiff in this case cannot properly be said to have an "immediate and necessary relation to the equity that he seeks in respect of the matter in litigation". Equity applies the doctrine of unclean hands "only for such violations of conscience as in some measure affect the equitable relation between the parties in respect of something brought before the court for adjudication." *Keystone Co. v. Excavator Co.*, 290 U. S. 240 at p. 245. The methods employed by plaintiff exhibitors, who negotiated for the films with the distributors, are only remotely related to the issue in this litigation, which concerns the defendants' practices in licensing the exhibitors to perform publicly for profit the music that is synchronized on the film. The special defense of "unclean hands" is therefore dismissed.

Attorneys' Fees

I have concluded that plaintiffs have not shown any injury from defendants' violations of the anti-trust laws and that, even if we presume injury, plaintiffs have not proved anything from which the court could approximate the damages. It follows that plaintiffs are not entitled to a money judgment and therefore cannot be awarded "a reasonable attorney's fee" under 15 U.S.C. §15. "The court cannot properly award it except as an incident to the successful prosecution of a law action for recovery of damages based on a violation of the anti-trust laws." *Allen Brodley Co. v. Local No. 3*, 51 F. Supp. 36 at p. 40. In *Decorative Stone Co. vs. Building Trades Council*, 23 F. 2d 426, it was held that "the allowance of an attorney's fee * * * is incidental to the statutory right to damages, and was properly denied in the equity proceedings," brought under 15 U.S.C. §26. Even though plaintiffs have made out a case for equitable relief under 15 U.S.C. §26 they may not recover "a reasonable attorneys' fee" because they have failed to establish their claim for damages under 15 U.S.C. §15.

Plaintiffs' claims for money damages and for a reasonable attorney's fee under §15 are denied. Plaintiffs' claims for injunctive relief under

(Continued on page 6)

Order Blanket Licensing by Ascap Halte

(Continued from column 1)

hibition of the film for profit to theatres which have an Ascap license. The producers and scap's members," the decision added, "thus combine the monopoly of the copyright of the motion picture with the monopoly of the copyright of the musical composition, which constitutes an unlawful extension of the statutory monopoly of each and violates the anti-trust laws, as a combination in restraint of trade."

The decision touched on the suggestion that the copyright owner might negotiate directly with the producer as an alternative to the present system of having exhibitors charged music fees by Ascap.

"Unquestionably," said Judge Leibell, "it would be a simpler and proper arrangement for the owner of the copyright to deal directly with the producer on both the synchronization rights and the performing rights, and thus have the motion picture producer acquire both rights at the same time, so that he in turn could rent the film without requiring the exhibitor to obtain the performance rights from Ascap. But that in some way the value of the performing rights would be claimed by the copyright owner and eventually would be passed on to the exhibitor, I have no doubt at all. The ultimate result would be that the exhibitor would not be separately charged for the performance rights, as he now is through Ascap, but he would be charged for those rights in the total rental he would pay for the film."

In granting the plaintiffs an injunction, the court explained that it was a move intended to prevent any threatened injury to them by the use of "power to demand unfair and exhorbi-

(Continued on page 6)

Harry Brandt Hails Ascap Case Ruling

The U. S. District Court decision holding Ascap to be a monopoly in restraint of trade was hailed as "a tremendous victory for exhibition" yesterday by Harry Brandt, president of the Independent Theatre Owners Association of New York, 164 members of which constituted the plaintiffs in the anti-trust action against the society.

The exhibitor leader said that the ruling "is ample vindication for our long fight," adding that "no longer will any exhibitor have to pay an unlawful exaction to Ascap."

JULY is
World
Premiere
month
at **U-I**

TAP ROOTS

100% Holdovers!

**Out-grossing "Canyon Passage,"
"The Egg And I," and all previous
U-I top money-makers at Goldman
Theatre, Philadelphia, and terri-
torial day-and-date premiere.
Holding over in every situation—
Philadelphia, Atlantic City, Easton,
Wilmington, Lancaster, Allentown,
Reading, Harrisburg! Nothing
like it ever hit the territory before!**

WALTER WANGER presents

TAP ROOTS

Color by **TECHNICOLOR**

Starring
VAN HEFLIN • SUSAN HAYWARD

with

**BORIS KARLOFF • JULIE LONDON
WARD BOND • RICHARD LONG**

and Introducing **WHITFIELD CONNOR**

Directed by **GEORGE MARSHALL**

Screenplay by Alan LeMay • Additional Dialogue
by Lionel Wiggam • Produced by WALTER WANGER
PICTURES, Inc. • A GEORGE MARSHALL Production
A UNIVERSAL-INTERNATIONAL RELEASE

Ride high with 

New Theatre Building Heavy in the South

NASHVILLE, July 20.—New theatre construction continues unabated in Southern states. Among the latest projects are the following:

Mrs. W. T. Ellis is building a 550-seater, estimated to cost \$125,000, at Cleveland, Miss. It will open this fall. Saenger-Ehrlich Enterprises is building a 1,000-seater at Shreveport, La. F. Arthur Hazard, Augusta, Ga., is planning a new house at Madison, Ga. Arkansas Amusements Inc., Dave Callahan manager, has received bids on a new theatre on the site of the old Royal, to be known as the Center.

W. L. Moxley, Blytheville, Ark., is planning a new 1,200-seater at West Memphis, Ark., for Negroes, to cost \$250,000. A war veterans group is constructing a new suburban house in Montgomery, Ala., to cost \$120,000. Pearson and Tittle and Hancock and Narrows, Montgomery, are the architects, and W. K. Upchurch Construction Co., also Montgomery, are the contractors.

McMINNVILLE, Tenn., July 20.—Cowan Oldham has opened his new Park Theatre. A new building costing \$200,000 replaces one destroyed by fire.

PETERSBURG, Tenn., July 20.—The Cottage Theatre opened recently. Irvin C. Ryder is owner and operator.

Times Views Industry

The *New York Times* carries on page one today a story headed "Nation's Entertainment Industry in Decline to Its Pre-War Status." It is a long story, gives considerable attention to the film industry, and quotes several industry executives, including Paramount president Barney Balaban.

Vet's Administration

(Continued from page 1)

ed in VA hospital auditoriums, will be furnished by the following companies: Columbia, Eagle-Lion, Film Classics, Loew's, Monogram, Paramount, RKO Radio, Republic, 20th Century-Fox, United Artists, Universal-International, Warner Brothers.

With the exception of United Artists, all of the foregoing companies also signed contracts to supply 16mm. films for hospital ward showings. In addition, Delta Pictures has contracted to provide 16mm. releases.

All of the 16mm. pictures, except those produced by RKO Radio, will be distributed to VA hospitals and homes by Films, Inc., or United World Films, Inc. RKO has its own 16mm. distribution facilities.

Six companies will supply VA patients in Puerto Rico with 16mm. films with Spanish subtitles. They are: Loew's, RKO Radio, Republic, Warner, Columbia, Monogram, International Corporation.

Each VA hospital in the Continental United States receives three 35mm. first-run features each week, in addition to sufficient shorts and newsreels.

The hospitals also receive two 16mm. features each week, as well as shorts and newsreels, to be shown in wards for bedfast patients.

VA's motion picture program is part of an overall special services program carried on by the hospital chaplain, librarian and recreational personnel.

Halts Ascapi Collections

(Continued from page 4)

tant license fees." The court pointed up the need for an injunction by citing the new rates sought by Ascapi last August, which approximated a 300 per cent increase.

"The conduct of Ascapi in notifying the theatre exhibitors in August, 1947, that the rates for an Ascapi license would be increased to such an extent that some theatres would be required to pay 15 times as much as the license fees under which they had been operating since 1934," the court asserted, "is an indication of the power that Ascapi has unlawfully acquired by its own arrangements with its members and by their arrangements with the motion picture producers."

The court held that the fact that Ascapi demands were modified in February of this year did not remove the need for injunctive relief. It added that the protection of an injunction was imperative to the plaintiffs "because the unlawful arrangements between Ascapi and its members and between the members and the motion picture producers is a continuing one and is a clear violation of the anti-trust laws."

trust laws."

The injunction would require Ascapi to divest itself of all rights of public performance for profit through motion picture exhibition, would restrain the society from obtaining "the right of public performance of any musical composition synchronized with motion picture films," stop Ascapi members from denying producers the right to publicly perform music in films for profit.

Ascapi is enjoined from issuing blanket licenses since they were found to be "a violation of the anti-trust laws and were issued pursuant to an illegal combination."

"Apart from the statute," the court said, "the license agreements were not inherently vicious and unlawful. The license agreements were unenforceable because of their statutory illegality. The exhibitor got something of value and received what he paid for."

According to Judge Leibell, Ascapi was not entitled to immunity under the trust laws simply because it is a membership association.

Text of Injunctions

(Continued from page 4)

\$26 are granted to the extent indicated in the Court's Conclusions of Law." Settle a judgment and decree accordingly. Dated, July 19th, 1948.

2. "XXVII. Plaintiffs are entitled to injunctive relief under Title 15 U. S. C. §26, as follows:—

(a) Directing Ascapi to divest itself with all reasonable speed of all rights of public performance for profit through the exhibition of motion picture films, of musical compositions which have been synchronized with motion picture films, and to assign said performance rights to the owners of the copyright of said musical compositions;

(b) Restraining Ascapi from obtaining the right of public performance of any musical composition synchronized with motion picture films when such musical composition is performed publicly for profit in conjunction with the exhibition of such motion picture films;

(c) Restraining Ascapi's members from refusing to grant to motion picture producers the right to publicly perform for profit through the exhibition of motion picture film, all musical compositions which they allow motion picture producers to synchronize with motion picture films;

(d) Restraining Ascapi's members from licensing, except to motion picture producers, the right of public performance for profit through the exhibition of motion picture films, of musical compositions synchronized with motion picture films;

(e) Restraining Ascapi and its members from conspiring with motion picture producers for the purpose of including a clause in contracts issued by producers to exhibitors directly or indirectly requiring exhibitors to obtain a license from Ascapi as a condition to the exhibition of the licensed pictures."

Sues to Divest

(Continued from page 1)

Wisconsin, Palace and Strand, operated by Fox-Milwaukee theatres, and the Warner, Alhambra and Riverside, operated by Warner Theatres, have maintained a monopoly on the exhibition of first-run pictures distributed by Loew's, Paramount, Columbia, 20th-Fox, Warner, RKO and Universal. All except the last named are defendants.

Among other charges are price-fixing, conspiracy and unreasonable clearance. Coston, who owns a controlling stock interest in the Standard Management Corp., which owns and operates the Riverside Theatre, was charged with having induced the defendant distributors in granting the Riverside priority of run and unreasonable clearance. Plaintiff's attorney, Thomas McConnell, well known for his Jackson Park case, said he is only interested in the divestiture of the defendant's first-run houses in Milwaukee.

The suit also asked to enjoin the defendants from refusing to license first-run films in the Towne, which has been a first-run outlet for U.A.

New Bldg. Code

(Continued from page 1)

and is planning a fifth, said the new code's banning of walk-in patrons at drive-ins and the requirement that incombustible materials be used for drive-in screens and screen structures are "unfair" to small operators who, he feels, will face increased construction costs under the provisions.

An original requirement in the new code, calling for incombustible enclosures, has been opposed successfully by the Fabian-Hellman drive-in interests, and, as reported in *MOTION PICTURE DAILY* on Monday, no change is now required in drive-in fence construction.

Toronto Will Promote

(Continued from page 1)

other influences affecting the film business.

The branch has also appointed a committee, headed by president J. Earl Lawson of Odeon Theatres of Canada, to continue negotiations with the Ontario government for the modification of the latter's new 20% tax.

15 New Theatres for San Francisco Area

SAN FRANCISCO, July 20.—Fifteen new theatres in Northern California are reported under construction.

A new 600-seat house at Boyes Springs is being built by Granville MacPherson. William R. Garren, architect and theatre owner, has taken over the Peralta Theatre, Oakland, and is completely redoing the place. A new quonset theatre is under construction in Sacramento by MacMahon and Ford and it has been leased to Kenneth Wright of that city. Pollock Pines is the site selected for a new showcase being erected on the road to Yosemite.

Wagner Project

William Wagner, who has managed the theatre in Folsom, is building a new house there. Contract has been let for a new Los Altos theatre, to seat 700 and be jointly owned by Sunnymount Theatres and Menlo Mayfield Amusement Co. A theatre in the Fair-Oaks district in Stockton is under construction by Harvey Amusement Co. A. J. Longtin of Fair Oaks has purchased land on the Plaza on which he intends to erect a theatre. Two new theatres are now being completely equipped by Preddy, just below Santa Cruz. One is at Capitola by J. Mayer, and the other at Soquel by Charles Ide.

Ralph Dostal has taken a lease on a Brisbane Theatre from R. Michel and intends to redo the house. A new theatre is under way in San Carlos by Ray Knight, Petaluma Theatre owner. Blumenfeld Circuit will open their El Cerrito Motor Movies on August 15. H. F. Taylor of Fresno is building a new theatre at Highway City. Biola is the locale for a new 400-seat house, being constructed by Mike Esponde. United California Theatres have opened the new Turlock theatre. The house cost \$120,000 and replaces the old Turlock which burned two years ago.

Assign Spade Work At Mid-Central Allied

St. Louis, July 20.—A temporary executive committee headed by Andy Dietz of St. Louis and H. Graham of Webster Groves, Mo., was set up at the first day organization session of the new Mid-Central Allied Independent Theatre Owners, Inc., to draft a slate of officers and form an organization program.

The new affiliate of the Allied organization was addressed in executive session by Abram F. Myers, general counsel and board chairman; William L. Ainsworth, Milwaukee, national president; Trueman Rembusch, Indianapolis, president of Associated Theatres Owners of Indiana, and John Wolfberg, Denver, president of Allied Rocky Mountain Independent Theatres.

Salesmen Want

(Continued from page 1)

a full year's salary after 15 years.

The salesmen further seek a set expense account scale of \$5 per day for hotel, \$6 daily for meals and 12 cents per mile for car allowance.

The Colosseum has been certified by the National Labor Relations Board as bargaining representative for the salesmen of 11 distributors.

JULY is
World
Premiere
month
at **U-I**

BUD **LOU**
ABBOTT & COSTELLO
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FRANKENSTEIN

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Record Grosses!**

Smashing U-I house records in first five engagements! Topping all previous A & C's—and even way ahead of top-grossing "Naked City," "Canyon Passage" and "The Killers" at the Strand, Albany; Paramount, Syracuse; Palace, Huntington, W. Va.; Keith's, Cincinnati, and Warner Theatre, Oklahoma City!

UNIVERSAL-INTERNATIONAL
presents

BUD **LOU**

ABBOTT & COSTELLO
MEET
FRANKENSTEIN

WITH

THE WOLFMAN • DRACULA • THE MONSTER

PLAYED BY LON CHANEY PLAYED BY BELA LUGOSI PLAYED BY GLENN STRANGE

Lenore Aubert • Jane Randolph

Original Screenplay by ROBERT LEES

FREDERIC RINALDO • JOHN GRANT

Directed by CHARLES T. BARTON

Produced by ROBERT ARTHUR



Ride high with **U-I**

RKO RADIO PICTURES, Inc. TRADE SHOWINGS

of LEO McCAREY'S

"GOOD SAM"

ALBANY

Information to come

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Fox Theatre, 660 Peachtree St., N. E.

BOSTON

Keith Memorial Th., 539 Washington St.

BUFFALO

20th Century Theatre, 511 Main St.

CHARLOTTE

Fox Projection Rm., 308 S Church St.

CHICAGO

Centre Theatre, 40-37 Lincoln Ave.

CINCINNATI

Albee Theatre, 13 East Fifth St.

CLEVELAND

RKO Allen Theatre, 1407 Euclid Ave.

DALLAS

Palace Theatre, 1623 Elm Street

DENVER

Orpheum Theatre, 1537 Welton St.

DES MOINES

Orpheum Theatre, 412 Eighth St.

DETROIT

Michigan Theatre, 238 Bagley

INDIANAPOLIS

Indiana Theatre, 134 W. Washington St.

KANSAS CITY

Orpheum Theatre, 1212 Baltimore

LOS ANGELES

Pantages Thea., 6233 Hollywood Blvd.

MEMPHIS

Linden Circle Theatre,
311 South Somerville Avenue

MILWAUKEE

Riverside Theatre, 116 W. Wisconsin Ave.

MINNEAPOLIS

Orpheum Theatre, 910 Hennepin Ave.

NEW HAVEN

Roger Sherman Thea., 70 College St.

NEW ORLEANS

Orpheum Thea., 125 University Place

NEW YORK

RKO 58th St. Thea., 58th St. & 3rd Ave.

OKLAHOMA CITY

Center Theatre, Civic Center

OMAHA

Brandeis Theatre, 206 So. 17th St.

PHILADELPHIA

State Theatre, 52 and Chestnut Sts.

PITTSBURGH

Warner Theatre, 336 Fifth Ave.

PORTLAND

Paramount Thea., 1037 S. W. Broadway

ST. LOUIS

Ambassador Theatre, 7th & Locust Sts.

SALT LAKE CITY

Capital Theatre, 52 W. Second South St.

SAN FRANCISCO

Golden Gate Theatre, Taylor and Golden Gate Avenues

SEATTLE

Music Hall Theatre, Seventh and Olive Way

SIOUX FALLS

Hollywood Theatre, 212 N. Phillips Ave.

WASHINGTON

Keith Theatre, 619 15th St., N. W.

Wed. 7/28 9:15 P.M.

Tues. 7/27 8:00 P.M.

Tues. 7/27 9:00 P.M.

Tues. 7/27 2:30 P.M.

Tues. 7/27 2:00 P.M.

Tues. 7/27 10:00 P.M.

Tues. 7/27 8:00 P.M.

Tues. 7/27 6:15 P.M.

Tues. 7/27 8:00 P.M.

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Tues. 7/27 8:30 P.M.

Wed. 7/28 8:30 P.M.

Thurs. 7/29 8:30 P.M.

Tues. 7/27 8:00 P.M.

Tues. 7/27 8:30 P.M.

Tues. 7/27 9:00 P.M.

Tues. 7/27 10:30 P.M.

Tues. 7/27 9:15 P.M.

Review

"Lady at Midnight"

(Eagle Lion)

RICHARD DENNING and Frances Refferty are the foster parents of Lora Lee Michel who figures to inherit the \$1,000,000 estate of her murdered mother. Lora Lee is about seven, knows all the answers, is embarrassingly "cute." Comes much ado about whether Miss Rafferty was legally old enough to take Lora Lee from the adoption institution. Also some underhanded intrigue and more murder. "Lady at Midnight" is a minor offering, hardly ever convincing.

Richard Sale is responsible for the screenplay and the original, She Scott directed and John Sutherland produced. Ralph Dunn, Nana Brack, Jack Searle and Harlan Warde are also in the cast.

Running time, 61 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, August 15.

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY correspondents. Estimates omit admission tax.

CHICAGO

Reduced admissions are a boon to downtown houses, especially for "Emperor Waltz" which will hit a smash \$70,000. Surprise business in the Loop, however, are reissues "Four Feathers" and "Drums," which are packing them in. Loop disappointment is "Romance on the High Seas." Estimated receipts for the week ending July 22:

BLACK ARROW (Col.) and ADVENTURES IN SILVERADO (Col.)—GAR-RICK (1,000) (50c-65c-98c). Gross: \$10,000. (Average: \$10,000)
DEEP WATERS (20th-Fox)—APOLLO (1,200) (50c-65c-98c) 2nd week. Gross: \$10,000. (Average: \$14,000)
EMPEROR WALTZ (Para.)—CHICAGO (3,900) (50c-65c-98c) On stage: Harmonicats. Gross: \$70,000. (Average: \$53,500)
FOUR FEATHERS (FC) and DRUMS (FC)—GRAND (1,150) (50c-65c-98c). Gross: \$24,000. (Average: \$11,500)
I, JANE DOE (Rep.)—ORIENTAL (3,300) (50c-65c-98c) On stage: Vaughan Monroe. Gross: \$60,000. (Average: \$45,000)
I REMEMBER MAMA (RKO Radio)—PALACE (2,500) (50c-65c-98c). Gross: \$27,500. (Average: \$21,000)
MICKEY (E-L)—ROOSEVELT (1,500) (50c-65c-98c). Gross: \$16,000. (Average: \$18,000)
ON OUR MERRY WAY (UA)—UNITED ARTISTS (1,700) (50c-65c-98c). Gross: \$22,000. (Average: \$20,000)
THE PARADINE CASE (SRO)—WOODS (1,080) (98c). Gross: \$37,000. (Average: \$23,000)
ROMANCE ON THE HIGH SEAS (WB)—STATE LAKE (2,700) (50c-65c-98c) 2nd week. Gross \$14,000. (Average: \$30,000)

PHILADELPHIA

Word premiere of "Tap Roots," accompanied by personal appearances of the stars, almost broke the house record at the Goldman, while other films varied from very good to dismal. Estimated receipts for the week ending July 20-22:

ARE YOU WITH IT? (U-I)—STANTON (1,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: \$8,000. (Average: \$11,200)
BERLIN EXPRESS (RKO Radio)—KARLTON (1,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: \$15,000. (Average: \$11,200)
EASTER PARADE (M-G-M)—MASTBAUM (4,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: \$32,700. (Average: \$22,300)
EMPEROR WALTZ (Para.)—STANLEY (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 5th week. Gross: \$15,200. (Average: \$22,800)
LETTER FROM AN UNKNOWN WOMAN (U-I)—KEITH (2,200) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd run. Gross: \$5,000. (Average: \$6,200)
MAN OF EVIL (UA)—ALDINE (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: \$7,800. (Average: \$13,300)
ON OUR MERRY WAY (UA)—ARCADIA

(900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: \$6,200. (Average: \$4,700)
PARADINE CASE (SRO)—BOYD (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 3rd week. Gross: \$22,600. (Average: \$20,300)
STREET WITH NO NAME (20th-Fox)—FOX (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 3rd week. Gross: \$16,000. (Average: \$20,800)
TAP ROOTS (U-I)—GOLDMAN (1,400) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: \$36,000. (Average: \$19,400)
THE UNCONQUERED (Para.)—EARLE (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) (first time at popular prices). Gross: \$15,600. (Average: \$22,500)

MINNEAPOLIS

Business held about average during a week of favorable weather, with "Mr. Blandings Builds His Dream House" the top draw. Estimated receipts for the week ending July 22:

FEUDIN', FUSSIN' AND A-FIGHTIN' (U-I)—RKO ORPHEUM (2,800) (50c-70c). Gross: \$12,500. (Average: \$12,500)
HATTER'S CASTLE (Para.)—CENTURY (1,500) (50c-70c) 3rd week. Gross: \$5,200. (Average: \$5,500)
I STOLE A MILLION (U-I) and YOU CAN'T CHEAT AN HONEST MAN (U-I reissues)—GOPHER (1,000) (44c-50c). Gross: \$2,900. (Average: \$3,200)
MR. BLANDINGS BUILDS HIS DREAM HOUSE (SRO)—RADIO CITY (4,000) (50c-70c). Gross: \$17,000. (Average: \$16,000)
THE FULLER BRUSH MAN (Col.)—RKO PAN (1,500) (50c-70c) 5th week. Gross: \$6,500. (Average: \$8,000)
THE LADY FROM SHANGHAI (Col.)—LYRIC (1,100) (50c-70c) 3rd week. Gross: \$4,800. (Average: \$5,000)
THE NOOSE HANGS HIGH (E-L)—STATE (2,300) (50c-70c). Gross: \$10,000. (Average: \$10,500)

CLEVELAND

"The Street With No Name" opened to the biggest business of the season and is heading for a very big \$26,000 at Warners' Hippodrome. "Emperor Waltz" held to a high \$17,500 in its second hold-over week at Loew's, State, and "Anna Karenina" was a success at the Lower Mall, where it will hold a second week. Hot weather continues to affect some pictures, but toppers are unhampered by rising temperatures or summer competition. Estimated receipts for the week ended July 20-21:

ANNA KARENINA (20th-Fox)—LOWER MALL (563) (50c-70c). Gross: \$4,500. (Average: \$2,500)
THE EMPEROR WALTZ (Para.)—LOEW'S STATE (3,300) (50c-70c) 2nd week on a holdover. Gross: \$17,500. (Average: \$19,300)
LULU BELLE (Col.)—RKO ALLEN (3,000) (55c-70c). Gross: \$9,000. (Average: \$13,800)
PANHANDLE (AA-Mono.)—WARNERS' LAKE (714) (50c-70c) 3 days, 2nd week. Gross: \$2,500. (Average: \$3,000)
BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio) 4 days, moved over from the Allen. Gross: \$2,500. (Average: \$3,000)
THE RETURN OF THE BAD MEN (RKO Radio)—RKO PALACE (3,300) (55c-

(Continued on page 10)

JULY is
World
Premiere
month
at **U-I**

FEUDIN' FUSSIN', And A-FIGHTIN'

Hitting New Highs!

U-I predicted a great audience picture, and first engagements over the RKO and Tri-State circuits proved it! New U-I records everywhere...stand-up business all day long! Held over in Des Moines and Omaha! Smash business in Minneapolis and St. Paul! Almost double the record "Canyon Passage" gross in Sioux City! First 2 days in Cedar Rapids tops 3-day "The Killers" gross! Wonderful in Waterloo, Tri-Cities . . . everywhere!

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MA 'n PA KETTLE OF "THE EGG AND I"

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PENNY EDWARDS • JOE BESSER

Screenplay by D. D. BEAUCHAMP from his Collier's
Magazine Story • Directed by GEORGE SHERMAN
Produced by LEONARD GOLDSTEIN



Says Some Product Penetrates 'Curtain'

The Vienna performance of "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs," first U. S. film to be approved by the Soviet authorities for screening in the Russian zone of Austria, has provided an opening wedge for the exhibition of other American pictures in the "Iron Curtain" countries, according to George Bookbinder, Walt Disney representative for Eastern Europe.

At an interview here yesterday Bookbinder observed that if American distributors sent representatives to the scene instead of trying to formulate Central European policy from this side they would have a better chance of penetrating the Iron Curtain.

It was disclosed that Kiba, Austria's only circuit, which operates more than 50 houses in Vienna, does not intend to renew its agreement with the Motion Picture Export Association of America because, it charges, the MPEA "follows an arbitrary policy."

According to Bookbinder, the Russians have come up with some "very fine" cartoon shorts in color which they are offering in competition to similar product from the U. S. in countries under Russian dominance. He said a German color process taken over by the Soviet is being used.

"Texas" Premiere Aug. 4

Warner Brothers has set-up a regional territorial campaign to mark the world premiere of "Two Guys from Texas" at the Majestic Theatre in San Antonio on August 4, announces Mort Blumenstock, vice-president in charge of advertising-publicity. The picture's stars, Dennis Morgan and Jack Carson, will appear.

Sliter's Son with Schine

ALBANY, N. Y., July 20.—Harold Sliter, son of Fred Sliter, 20th Century-Fox salesman here, has been appointed zone manager of Schine Theatres. It had been inadvertently reported that Harold was the father of Fred.



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**AMERICAN
AIRLINES**

Key City Grosses

(Continued from page 8)

70c). Gross: \$16,500. (Average: \$16,000)
RUTHLESS (E-L)—LOEW'S STILLMAN (1,900) (50c-70c). Gross: \$10,000. (Average: \$10,500)
THE STREET WITH NO NAME (20th-Fox)—WARNERS' HIPPODROME (3,500) (55c-70c). Gross: \$26,000. (Average: \$15,000)
WINGS OVER HONOLULU (Realart) and CORVETTE K-225 (Realart)—LOEW'S OHIO (1,268) (50c-70c). Gross: \$4,000. (Average: \$6,200)

BOSTON

Hot sultry days still prevail. Outdoor attractions are still drawing. "Easter Parade" is doing good business. Estimated receipts for the week ended July 21:

CORONER CREEK (Col.) and KINGS OF THE OLYMPICS (UA)—ASTOR (1,300) (44c-80c) Gross: \$4,500. (Average: none available)
EASTER PARADE (M-G-M)—ORPHEUM (3,000) (40c-80c) Gross: \$25,000. (Average: \$27,000)

EASTER PARADE (M-G-M)—STATE (3,500) (40c-80c) Gross: \$15,000. (Average: \$12,000)

DEEP WATERS (20th-Fox) and JINX MONEY (Mono.)—PARAMOUNT (1,700) (40c-80c) 2nd week. Gross: \$13,000. (Average: \$17,000)

DEEP WATERS (20th-Fox) and JINX MONSIEUR (Mono.)—FENWAY (1,373) (40c-80c) 2nd week. Gross: \$5,800. (Average: \$10,000)

FIGHTING FATHER DUNNE (RKO Radio) and ARIZONA RANGER (RKO Radio)—RKO BOSTON (3,200) (40c-80c) 8 days. Gross: \$12,000. (Average: None available on summer schedule)

HOLIDAY CAMP (U-I) and CLOUDS OVER EUROPE (F-C)—EXETER (1,300) (45c-75c) 4 days. Gross: \$2,400. (Average: \$5,000)

MR. BLANDINGS BUILDS HIS DREAM HOUSE (SRO) and MADONNA OF THE DESERT (Rep.)—RKO MEMORIAL (3,000) (40c-80c). Gross: \$19,500. (Average: \$22,000)

ROMANCE ON THE HIGH SEAS (WB) and THE CHECKERED COAT (20th-Fox)—METROPOLITAN (4,367) (40c-80c). With a personal appearance of Dr. I. Q. one night. Gross: \$20,000. (Average: \$27,000)
THE OCTOBER MAN (E-L) and VACATION FROM MARRIAGE (M-G-M)—EXETER (1,300) (45c-85c) 3 days. Gross: \$1,400. (Average: \$5,600)

TORONTO

With the exception of the strong showing of "Fort Apache," business was in the doldrums for the main Toronto theatres this week. There were two holdovers, one for a fourth week, but these were showing patronage weakness along with the new pictures. Estimated receipts for the week ending July 22:

THE END OF THE RIVER (EL)—DANFORTH (1,400) (20c-36c-50c-60c) 6 days. Gross: \$5,500. (Average: \$6,500)
THE END OF THE RIVER (EL)—FAIR-

LAWN (1,195) (20c-36c-50c-55c) 6 days. Gross: \$5,000. (Average: \$5,500)

FEUDIN', FUSSIN' AND A-FIGHTIN' (U-I) and THE INSIDE STORY (Rep.)—UPTOWN (2,761) (20c-36c-50c-66c-90c) 6 days. Gross: \$16,100. (Average: \$14,600)

FORT APACHE (RKO Radio)—IMPERIAL (3,343) (20c-36c-50c-66c-90c) 6 days. Gross: \$16,100. (Average: \$14,600)

THE FULLER BRUSH MAN (Col.)—SHEA'S (2,480) (20c-36c-50c-66c-90c) 6 days, 4th week. Gross: \$13,700. (Average: \$14,700)

ON AN ISLAND WITH YOU (M-G-M)—LOEW'S (2,074) (20c-36c-50c-66c-78c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: \$13,200. (Average: \$14,200)

TO THE VICTOR (WB)—EGLINTON (1,086) (20c-36c-50c-66c) 6 days. Gross: \$6,000. (Average: \$6,900)

TO THE VICTOR (WB)—TIVOLI (1,434) (20c-36c-50c-66c) 6 days. Gross: \$7,000. (Average: \$8,200)

WOMAN IN WHITE (WB)—NORTOWN (950) (20c-42c-60c) 6 days. Gross: \$4,500. (Average: \$5,000)

WOMAN IN WHITE (WB)—VICTORIA (1,240) (20c-36c-42c-60c) 6 days. Gross: \$5,000. (Average: \$5,800)

ATLANTA

Business this week is just above average, with better pictures. Estimated receipts for the week ending July 21.

EASTER PARADE (M-G-M)—LOEW'S GRAND (2,446) (12c-60c) Gross: \$15,105. (Average: \$15,000)

GREEN GRASS OF WYOMING (20th-Fox)—FOX (4,446) (12c-50c) Gross: \$15,500. (Average: \$15,000)

THE EMPEROR WALTZ (Para.)—ROXY. Moveover from the Fox. (2,446) (12c-50c) Gross: \$6,000. (Average: \$5,800)

TARZAN AND THE MERMAIDS (RKO Radio)—PARAMOUNT (2,446) (12c-50c) Gross: \$6,500. (Average: \$5,800)

INDIANAPOLIS

Business is very good here this week—for "Easter Parade." It broke the house record at Loew's opening day and is assured of a hold-over. No other attraction at first-runs here is making average. Estimated receipts for the week ending July 20-21:

ANNA KARENINA (20th-Fox) and SONG OF MY HEART (AA)—KEITHS' (1,300) (44c-65c) Gross: \$3,000. (Average: \$4,500)

EASTER PARADE (M-G-M)—LOEW'S (2,450) (44c-65c) Gross: \$22,000. (Average: \$11,000)

I, JANE DOE (Rep.) and SECRET SERVICE INVESTIGATOR (Rep.)—LYRIC (1,600) (44c-65c) Gross: \$5,000. (Average: \$6,000)

LETTER FROM AN UNKNOWN WOMAN (UI) and ARE YOU WITH IT? (UI)—CIRCLE (2,800) (44c-65c) Gross: \$8,000. (Average: \$10,000)

ROMANCE ON THE HIGH SEAS (WB) and BLONDE ICE (FC)—INDIANA (3,200) (44c-65c) Gross: \$9,000. (Average: \$12,000)

Theatre Guild To Sponsor 'Hamlet'

The Theatre Guild here has organized a special film promotion department to conduct a campaign for a picture under its sponsorship—Universal-International's "Hamlet"—aimed principally at its legitimate theatre contacts and designed to supplement the distributor's operation, it was announced here yesterday by Lawrence Langner and Theresa Helburn, co-administrative directors of the Guild. Dick Weaver, former member of the Guild's press department, will handle the campaign.

"Hamlet" is the third film to be presented in this country under sponsorship of the Guild, the previous two being "Henry V," United Artists, and "Mourning Becomes Electra," RKO Radio.

E - L To Use Video For Film Promotions

Television is being integrated into the Eagle-Lion promotion picture, it was announced by Max E. Youngstein, advertising-publicity vice-president.

Example of the television tieups being set by the company are four telecasts promoting "Canon City" and "Mickey" through appearances of Scott Brady and Lois Butler, stars of the two films, on video shows.

Variety To Golf

MINNEAPOLIS, July 20.—Northwest Variety Club's annual golf meet will be held July 30 at the Oak Ridge Country Club, near suburban Hopkins, it is announced by Gil Nathanson, golf committee chairman.

Skouras, Smith to 20th Canadian Meet

Twentieth Century-Fox executives will leave New York today for Toronto to attend tomorrow's convention of the Canadian sales organization at which the company's 1948-49 feature program will be announced by Andy W. Smith, Jr., general sales manager. The meeting will take place at the Royal York Hotel, with Smith as a guest.

The session will be attended by president Spyros P. Skouras and home office executives W. C. Gehring, assistant general sales manager; Charles Schlaifer, director of advertising-publicity; Martin Moskowitz, executive assistant to Smith; Peter Levathes, short subject sales manager; Clarence A. Hill, manager of branch operations, and Frank Carroll, Roger Ferri and Jack Bloom.

The Canadian delegation will include Arthur Silverstone, Canadian division manager, and the following branch managers: V. M. Skorey, Calgary; Edward English, Montreal; R. G. March, St. John; H. J. Bailey, Toronto; J. E. Patterson, Vancouver; J. Huber, Winnipeg; exploitation representative Sam Glasier and Toronto salesmen and bookers.

Roy Alexander, 58, NSS Chicago Chief

CHICAGO, July 20.—Roy Alexander, 58, Chicago salesman for National Screen Service and prominent in the film business for 30 years, died suddenly this morning at Southtown Hospital here of a heart attack. Yesterday he had attended the funeral of Jack McPherson, London manager of National Screen, and had apparently been in good health. He was formerly branch manager for National Screen in Kansas City and was district manager for Universal and Columbia prior to 1940.

He is survived by the widow, Rina.

A. H. Nanton, Exhibitor

MONTREAL, July 20.—A. H. Nanton, operator of the Playhouse, Manchester, Vt., died here suddenly last Friday.

Fine Foto-Nite Winner

TORONTO, July 20.—Foto-Nite officials in Toronto have been studying the judgment of an Ottawa court which ruled that the Foto-Nite prize stunt at theatres was a lottery scheme and imposed a fine on a winning participant at the Francais Theatre, Ottawa.

OF COURSE



**"TEXAS,
BROOKLYN
and
HEAVEN"**
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Terrific in five-theatre Los Angeles pre-
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MAN-EATER OF KUMAON

starring

SABU · JOANNE PAGE

AS "NARAIN"

AS "LALI"

and

WENDELL COREY

AS THE HUNTER

with **MORRIS CARNOVSKY**

A UNIVERSAL-INTERNATIONAL RELEASE • Adap-
tation by Richard G. Hubler and Alden Nash • Screen-
play by Jeonette Bartlett and Lewis Meltzer • Based
on the book "Man-Eaters of Kumaon" by Jim Corbett

Directed by

Produced by

BYRON HASKIN · MONTY SHAFF

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Ride high with **U-I**

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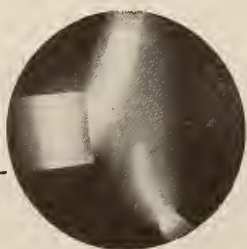
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Reissues Seen Hit by N. Y. Ascap Decision

Society Lost Case by Exorbitant Fee Demand

The New York Federal District Court decision holding that the blanket licensing of music performing rights to theatres by Ascap is illegal raises serious problems for Film Classics, Astor Pictures and other companies dealing in reissues acquired from other producers, industry attorneys said yesterday.

They pointed out that, if the New York court decision is sustained, producers of new pictures may have little difficulty obtaining performing rights to the music in their pictures at the same time that synchronization rights are obtained and, thus, will be in a position to extend the performing rights licenses to exhibitors.

However, they said, if distributors of reissues are unable to obtain performing rights licenses from Ascap, in the event the New York decision is upheld, such distributors would be

(Continued on page 3)

Performing Rights Payments Stay: TOA

In a statement issued here yesterday Herman Levy, counsel for Theatre Owners of America, warned exhibitors that the Federal Court's decision finding Ascap guilty of violating the anti-trust laws does not relieve them of their statutory obligation to pay performing rights.

Levy pointed out that the opinion of Judge Vincent L. Leibel does not

(Continued on page 3)

Harry Katz Is Dead; Chicago Rites Today

CHICAGO, July 21.—Services for Dr. Harry Katz, 54, former owner and president of Monarch Theatres, who died in Chicago yesterday, are to be held at 10 A.M. tomorrow at the Piser Funeral Home, this city. He had been ill for several months.

Katz retired from the industry in March, 1947, when he sold his interests in Monarch to Ted R. Gamble, who now operates the circuit. His survivors include the widow, Mary Katz; a brother, Sam Katz, studio vice-president of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer; his mother, Conja, and two sisters, Mrs. Lillie Stern and Mrs. Esther Katzman.

Discount Foreign Revenue, Heed US Market: Johnston

HOLLYWOOD, July 21.—Hollywood must design its pictures in such fashion as to make them commercially safe on the basis of the domestic market return alone, Eric A. Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association of America, told a group here planning a public relations council. He warned that the foreign situation as it concerns revenue to the United States is likely to get worse before it improves.

Johnston urged all phases of production to buckle down to a firm realization of the outlook and govern their activities and inter-relationships accordingly.

The public relations group, representing producers, guilds and unions, reportedly made little progress in finalizing industry council plans. Another meeting is tentatively scheduled for next month.

Hit 'Popcorn Clause' In New Bldg. Code

Sharp objection to a clause in the proposed revisions to the New York State building code which would prohibit the use in theatres of popcorn machines or other vending machines using combustible fluid, was voiced here yesterday.

At the final public hearing at the State Board of Standards and Appeals in the Empire State Building, Leonard L. Rosenthal, representing Smalley Theatres, Inc., and Upstate Theatres,

(Continued on page 3)

Edward T. Dickinson Named to ECA Post

WASHINGTON, July 21.—Edward T. Dickinson, Jr., on leave of absence as vice-president of Universal Pictures Co. in charge of educational films, today was appointed director of the new program co-ordination division of the Economic Cooperation Administration, which will be responsible for evaluating and recommending ECA programs for the European countries participating.

Dickinson, 37, was a marine in the war and was with Office of Strategic Services. He served as research assistant to the chairman of the United States Steel board before he went into service, later becoming executive director of the planning committee of the War Production Board. After the war he functioned as one of the U. S. representatives on the Emergency Economic Committee for Europe.

Warren Will Decide British Money Split

LONDON, July 21.—Determination of an equitable system of allocating remittable American film money to the U. S. companies has been placed in the hands of John F. Warren, London accountant, who has acted as auditor for various American companies here for a number of years.

Britain's Board of Trade, with the approval of the Anglo-U. S. control committee which governs the operation of the dollar exchange agreement which settled the 75 per cent import tax dispute, named Warren to the post. According to the Board's announcement, he is to "determine an equitable basis for the distribution among qualified American claimants for available dollars under the agreement and calculate the amounts to which each claimant is entitled."

In the event a claimant considers Warren's decision inequitable it will have the right of appeal to the control committee. Otherwise his decision will be final and no dollar transfer will be authorized without his advice. Claims accordingly will be addressed to Warren.

Warren's remuneration will be paid by the American companies on a proportionate basis. Time when the initial distribution of dollars will be made is still uncertain but is promised at the earliest date possible.

Holloway Heads New Mid-Central Allied

ST. LOUIS, July 21.—Organization of Mid-Central Allied Independent Theatre Owners, Inc., has been completed here with the election of Henry Holloway of St. Louis County as president and A. B. Jeffreys, Piedmont, Mo., as vice-president. Hugh Graham of St. Louis is secretary.

Board members are Charles Beninati, Carlyle, Ill.; Earl Vandever, Kennett, Mo.; W. T. Zimmerman, Warrenton, Mo.; Caesar Berutt, Sullivan, Mo.; Lee Norton, Sullivan, Ill., and Andrew Dietz.

Wilby Returns 2 in Tenn. to Crescent

ATLANTA, July 21.—Wilby Theatres has relinquished operation of the Rialto and Gem, Kingsport, Tenn., and has returned the theatres to Crescent Amusement Co. of Nashville, owner and former operator. Wilby, which had operated the houses for many years past, will continue to operate the State, its own house in Kingsport.

Two independent houses, the Center and the recently opened Fox, also are operating in Kingsport.

Ascap Weighs Exit from Theatre Field

Says Its Members Might Benefit from Decision

Ascap officials said yesterday that consideration is being given to a withdrawal from the theatre music licensing field without taking an appeal from the New York Federal court decision of Tuesday enjoining the Society from issuing blanket performing rights licenses to theatres and granting other basic injunctive relief to members of the Independent Theatre Owners Association of New York, plaintiffs in the action against Ascap. "The decision may be a blessing in disguise for Ascap," one official said.

(Continued on page 3)

Ascap Decision Seen Vindicating Allied

WASHINGTON, July 21.—Abram F. Myers, Allied States general counsel, declared today that the New York decision ruling out the Ascap seat tax is complete vindication for Allied's position of last winter in supporting the Lewis bill and refusing to bargain with Ascap.

The order, he said, "gives effect to the substance of the Lewis bill," and was no doubt influenced by it.

"Quite naturally," said Myers in a statement telephoned to his office from St. Louis, "Allied is gratified that its position in reference to Ascap has received full judicial sanction. I am happy to congratulate Messrs. Brandt

(Continued on page 3)

Trinity Sues Selznick In Contract Dispute

HOLLYWOOD, July 21.—William A. Bacher's Trinity Pictures Corporation has filed a Superior Court suit against David O. Selznick, Vanguard Films and numerous "John Does," asking \$2,500,000 for charged violation of a contract covering the production "If This Be My Harvest," which was stopped on the scheduled starting date when Vanguard-loaned players, Valli, Louis Jourdan and Robert Mitchum failed to report for work.

Selznick subsequently issued a statement saying the deal had not been completed and players were withheld because Bacher had failed to revise the script to conform with Selznick's requirements.

US Product Regains Position in Ecuador

WASHINGTON, July 21.—With 1948 business already matching the entire 1947 take, U. S. pictures have regained their pre-war dominance in Ecuador, Department of Commerce film chief Nathan D. Golden will reveal here tomorrow. "Most important factor in this trend," said Golden, "was the unceasing efforts of the local agents of United States film distributors."

Golden reported that 390 (74 per cent) of the 524 features released in Ecuador last year were of U. S. origin, with 93 Mexican, 22 Argentine, 7 British, 7 French and 5 Russian films. U. S. product accounted for 75 per cent of the playing time and 62 per cent of the gross.

The year before Mexican product had accounted for 50 per cent of the playing time and 60 per cent of the take. Last year those figures were only 20 and 25 per cent.

NSS Office in NY To Service Albany

ALBANY, N. Y., July 21.—National Screen Service has transferred its servicing of lobby material to exhibitors in the Albany area from its Albany branch to its New York office. Herman Robbins, president of NSS, told theatremen here that the company has been sending trailers from New York successfully for a number of years, and that accessories can be handled from New York with equal efficiency. Some mats, stills and press books will be kept here to accommodate exhibitors with close bookings.

Hersholt Names Schary

HOLLYWOOD, July 21.—Motion Picture Academy of Arts and Sciences president Jean Hersholt announced today the appointment of Dore Schary to the board of governors as representative of the executives branch, filling the vacancy left by Donald Nelson's withdrawal from the industry.

N. Peter Rathvon is the other executive representative on the board.

Switches Film to UA

HOLLYWOOD, July 21.—Independent producer Jerrold Brandt reports he has obtained a release from his commitment to distribute "Command Performance" through Columbia and announces United Artists as the distributor. Brandt has the film in preparation with a \$1,500,000 budget, it is said.

UA Film at Capitol

The first United Artists release to play the Capitol here in several years, "Pitfall" has been booked for the house, usually a "showcase" for M-G-M product, to open following "On an Island with You." Samuel Bischoff produced "Pitfall."

Alexander Rites Today

CHICAGO, July 21.—Services for Le Roy Alexander, 58, National Screen Service salesman, who died here yesterday, are to be held here tomorrow.

Personal Mention

MAURICE BERGMAN, Universal-International Eastern advertising-publicity director, and **MRS. BERGMAN**, returned to New York yesterday by plane from London.

HARRY M. KALMINE, president of Warner Theatres; **HARRY GOLDBERG**, director of advertising-publicity, and **HARRY ROSENQUEST**, executive, will return to New York tomorrow from Albany.

AL HORWITS, Eastern publicity manager for Universal-International, and **CHARLES SIMONELLI**, Eastern exploitation manager, are in Atlantic City from New York.

W. C. GEHRING, 20th Century-Fox assistant general sales manager, is in Chicago where he will be a pallbearer today at the funeral of the late **HARRY KATZ**.

PAUL RICHRATH, home office assistant to **JOHN P. BYRNE**, Eastern sales manager, will leave here today for an up-state vacation.

EDWARD M. SCHNITZER, United Artists' Eastern and Canadian sales manager, is in Cleveland from New York.

HERMAN RIPPES, field assistant to **JOHN P. BYRNE**, M-G-M Eastern manager, is here from Albany.

MARK SILVER, United Artists' Pennsylvania-Washington district manager, is a visitor here.

CHARLES M. REAGAN, Paramount distribution vice-president, is in Chicago where he will attend the Will Rogers Memorial Fund luncheon today.

HAL HODE, executive assistant to **JACK COHN**, Columbia executive vice-president, was married yesterday to **MRS. DOROTHY PLEHN** of Chicago at Forest Hills, L. I.

WILLIAM A. SCULLY, Universal-International distribution vice-president, will sail from France today for New York aboard the *S.S. America*.

HUGH OWEN, Eastern and Southern divisional sales manager for Paramount, will return to New York at the weekend from Charlotte, N. C.

LAWRENCE A. AUDRAIN, Prestige Pictures' publicity director, is visiting England from New York.

ALEXANDER MARKEY, producer-director, will leave New York Saturday for Hollywood.

WILLIAM SELWYN, talent director for **SAMUEL GOLDWYN**, is here from the Coast.

J. P. BRODERICK has purchased the Royal Theatre, Dunlap, Ia., from **CARL WORL**.

JOHN EDDING has sold his Galva Theatre, Galva, Ia., to **BRADLEY GRIMES**.

Sues 20th on Contract

Mildred (Babe) Didrickson Zaharias filed a \$100,000 suit against 20th-Fox in U. S. District Court here yesterday. The woman athlete charged the company broke a contract calling for her services in six shorts for a consideration of \$60,000.

O'Donnell Released

HOLLYWOOD, July 21.—Samuel Goldwyn has released **Cathy O'Donnell** from her contract and will replace her in "Roseanne McCoy," which she was scheduled to start with Farley Granger next month. Miss O'Donnell has been under contract for four years.

Strike May Shut Off Theatre Air-Cooling

A threatened walkout of air-conditioning engineers, which would shut down the cooling systems in most of the large Broadway theatres and RKO and Loew's neighborhoods here, came yesterday as members of Local No. 30 of the International Union of Operating Engineers (AFL) voted yesterday to reject an exhibitors' offer of 10 per cent wage increase. The union refuses to reduce its demands beyond 15 per cent, contending that its members have had no increase in two years and need the higher wage to offset the rise in living costs.

Strike is scheduled for tomorrow, and the temperature has been pressing 90 lately. If the strike occurs the exhibitors may keep the theatres open.

Donation To Aid Actors

Another allocation of \$25,000 has been made by the Theatre Authority, Inc., here, to the following theatrical charities for the relief of the indigent of the acting profession: Actors' Fund of America, Stage Relief Fund, American Guild of Variety Artists, Screen Actors' Guild, Episcopal Actors' Guild, Jewish Theatrical Guild, Actors' Equity Association, Chorus Equity Association, Negro Actors' Guild, American Guild of Musical Artists, American Federation of Radio Artists, Authors League Fund and League of New York Theatres. Announcement of the allocation was made by **Alan Corelli**, TA's national executive secretary.

\$31,000 for Film Charity

TORONTO, July 21.—Assistant chief barker **Morris Stein** of the Toronto Variety Tent has reported net proceeds of \$31,000 from the club's second annual baseball benefit in aid of the fund for Variety Village, a training school for Ontario handicapped children. The fund now stands at approximately \$120,000, all raised by the local tent.

\$3,306,000 to Mexicans

MEXICO CITY, July 21.—The Mexican film industry continues to get considerable cash from its own bank, the Banco Nacional Cinematografica here. During the first six months of this year it granted loans, credits and discounts totaling \$3,306,578.

Drive-in Building Beyond Expectation

The construction of drive-in theatres in virtually every exchange territory in the country is far surpassing the most optimistic expectations of the blue-printing days of last winter and fall. Realty markets in favored locations are booming. Most favored areas are, naturally, those where mild weather predominates most of the year. Equipment manufacturers of the essentials for drive-in operations and their theatre supply dealer agencies are enjoying the splurge of the sponsors of outdoor auto-movie entertainment. So are the vendors of popcorn and refreshments as existing drive-in operators extend their commercial operations to circulate "carhops" among their car customers, and new drive-in exhibitors build candy stands at the outset.

Few Rejections

In only a comparative few instances have local authorities rejected applications of wouldbe drive-in operators, and in most of these cases rejection was because of local residential zoning restrictions enforced in suburban areas. A few were rejected because of anticipated traffic hazards.

Among the newest drive-in projects reported in the field, to be added to the scores launched in recent months, are the following:

Louisville reports drive-ins contemplated by **W. H. Hahn** and **J. F. Burnette** of Bardstown, and by unnamed operators at Glasgow, Ky., and in Southwest Louisville. **Clem Jaunich** will spend \$100,000 on a 500-car drive-in at Austin, Minn. Three are contemplated by **Ralph Green**, one each at Racine and Madison, Wis., and at Rochester, Minn. **Alva** and **Edward Taylor** and **Charles Steinborn** have opened at Huron, S. D. Drive-in equipment has been shipped to spots at Clovis, N. Mex., Anderson, S. C., and Laurinburg, N. C.

Other Projects

H. J. Shelby has plans for Kevil, Ky., while **J. W. Lyles** of Benton and **L. J. Gill** of Paducah, both also in Kentucky, are considering construction. **Weymouth Drive-In Corp.** of Boston is building at West Springfield, Mass., while **E. M. Loew Theatres** has plans for Montville, Conn. Already operating three in Up-state New York, **Fabian-Hellman Drive-In Theatres** plan another on the Troy-Albany road. The drive-in list has been further expanded by **S. A. F. Co.**, Charlotte, and **Turnpike Theatre Co.**, Newington, Conn., headed by **Robert Gloth** and **Joseph Dolgin**.

In Canada, Ontario's largest auto theatre is the **Starlite**, at Chippewa, managed by **Dewey McCourt**, who also has the **Brock** at Niagara-on-the-Lake. **W. C. Macon** spent \$40,000 on a project between Old Fort and Marion, N. C. **W. W. Williams'** drive-in on the Charlotte-York road cost the same. **Burlington, Vt.**, has a new drive-in, backed by **John Gardner**. Improvements have been made by **C. O. Kirby** at Kansas City, Mo., while the **Bristol Livestock Co.**, headed by **Albert Bernstein**, has expanded into drive-in field at Bristol, Conn.

Reissues Hit

(Continued from page 1)

put to extreme difficulties to locate individual owners of the copyrighted music in their pictures and might incur extraordinary costs in acquiring the rights. It was pointed out that in many cases such distributors, if they could identify the copyright owners and locate them, might have to deal with trusts, estates, attorneys and representatives and their negotiating position would be disadvantageous inasmuch as it would be known the pictures in question could not be sold without performing rights clearance for the music they contained.

Industry attorneys and other trade observers were agreed that the most telling factor in Ascap's loss of the ITOA case, where it had been victorious in all previous cases of the kind including one brought by the Government which ended in a consent decree favorable to Ascap, was the Society's exorbitant demands made upon exhibitors last August.

Unrestrained Demands

The New York court decision cited the increases in theatre rates demanded by Ascap, which averaged about 300 per cent, as evidence of its monopolistic power and latent ability to injure. Thus most industry observers see the decision as one having been courted by Ascap itself through its unrestrained demands.

Presently, the Society is seeking even higher rate increases from theatres with regular stage show policies. The general trade feeling now is that Ascap no longer is in a position to press those demands.

Attorneys also pointed out that the recent U. S. Supreme Court decision in the Paramount case contributed to Ascap's defeat in the ITOA case. The New York court referred to the Supreme Court decision finding block booking illegal to justify the local court's finding that the pooling of copyrights of Ascap members for the issuance of blanket licenses is equally illegal.

To Re-Release "Ape"

Jules Levey, independent producer, has concluded a deal with Film Classics for re-release of "The Hairy Ape."

Allied on Ascap

(Continued from page 1)

and Weisman on the successful outcome of the litigation. I hope that Judge Nordbye will promptly follow this precedent in deciding the Berger case.

"Allied has been fully vindicated in its refusal to appease Ascap by entering into contractual relations with it. In that way Allied avoided becoming a party to an illegal compact.

"Allied urges exhibitors not to be affected by propaganda that producers will add to film rentals more than the Ascap charges or will exact a separate public performing charge. Exhibitors can bargain for film rentals. They cannot bargain with Ascap. Any attempt by the producers to exact a separate charge will go the same way as the score charge.

"This decidedly is a great victory for the independent exhibitors."

\$40,000,000 Radio Sales

WASHINGTON, July 19.—Sales of radio and television equipment totalled \$40,351,820 during the first quarter of 1948.

RKO Meets Monday In San Francisco

SAN FRANCISCO, July 21.—RKO Radio's fifth and final zone meeting will be held here July 26 with Robert Mochrie, vice-president in charge of domestic distribution, presiding. A home office delegation will include Walter E. Branson, Western division sales manager; Harry J. Michelson, short subject sales manager; A. A. Schubart, manager, exchange operations, and Harry Gittleston, assistant to Mr. Branson.

J. H. MacIntyre, manager, Western district, and A. L. Koltz, manager, Rocky Mountain district, will also be on hand as will the following branch managers: J. C. Emerson, Denver; G. Davidson, Salt Lake City; E. A. Lamb, Seattle; R. H. Lange, Portland; H. C. Cohen, Los Angeles; J. P. Smith, San Francisco, and Ollie Watson, sales manager in the latter exchange.

Censor Board Doubles Adult Film Listings

TORONTO, July 21.—The Ontario Board of Censors has apparently tightened up on its classification of features for adult patronage, according to the report for June during which six pictures were rated as adult entertainment. The list: "Blanche Fury," "Road to the Big House," "Furia," "Dear Murderer," "Mark of Cain" and "Hatter's Castle." The adult list for May had only three pictures.

Theatre Robbery

OTTAWA, July 21.—Heavy safe containing over 500 dollars in cash was among items stolen from manager's office of Elmdale Theatre here. Authorities are investigating.

New Bldg. Code

(Continued from page 1)

Inc., declared that such a provision "would work severe hardships on many smaller theatres."

His view was supported by representatives of Metropolitan Motion Picture Theatres Association.

Most of the hearing was devoted to an interpretation of the language of the proposed code as well as comments on its provisions. After reviewing the comments made at these hearings, as well as other suggestions that can be submitted up to Aug. 31, the board is expected to draw up a final draft.

Lamont Objects

Another source of objection yesterday rose from Harry Lamont, up-state drive-in owner, who saw as "unfair" a provision which would bar walk-in spectators from drive-in theatres. He pointed out that many drive-ins provide annex parking spaces for overflow cars, with seating accommodations provided for these passengers. He also objected to a provision that drive-in screens and screen structures should be made of incombustible material.

Other Aspects

The question of whether resort hotels that occasionally show motion pictures should come under provisions for theatres came in for considerable discussion and will be regarded by the board.

William H. Roberts, chairman of the board, presided at the meeting, and John Coggeshall, State Industrial Code Officer, was moderator.

RCA Has 7-By-9 Ft. Television System

RCA Victor yesterday reported it has begun initial distribution in television network areas of new commercial equipment which produces video pictures on screens ranging from three-by-four feet to six-by-nine feet. The 63-square-foot image can be obtained by placing the projector 17 feet from the screen. A special focusing system permits adjustment for a shorter projection throw, providing a smaller image, it was said. The equipment was designed for use by theatres (in lobbies and mezzanines), hotels, clubs, hospitals, schools, etc.

UK Studios Install 46 W. E. Recorders

Robert J. Engler, recording manager of Western Electric Company in England, who has returned to the U. S. for conferences with officials of Westrex in New York and Hollywood, reports 46 Western Electric recording channels have been installed or are being installed by 12 studios in Britain. Production activity among W. E.'s British licensees, he adds, is on the rise, with some new sound stages being built.

During Engler's absence from London, his post is being filled by Reeve O. Strock, recording Westrex manager.

Phila. Combine Will Bid for WB Houses

PHILADELPHIA, July 21.—William Ehrenberg, head of a local premium firm which serves Warner and other picture companies, has formed a syndicate which is planning to offer Warner Brothers a bid to take over all their theatres in this zone, which includes Philadelphia, New Jersey, Delaware and up-state Pennsylvania.

According to Ehrenberg, the syndicate is made up of 14 prominent localities who are "definitely" prepared to make a \$5,000,000 initial deposit as first payment.

Within the next week or 10 days they expect to send a committee of about five persons to California to contact Warners.

TOA on Decision

(Continued from page 1)

mean that the owners of copyrighted musical compositions will be deprived of payments for performing rights, adding that "nothing short of a repeal of that portion of the Federal copyright law could accomplish that." He asserted that "the court did not intend to infringe on that right."

"For those who would negotiate for performing rights with individual copyright owners or would-be producers of films as part of film cost rather than with Ascap," the TOA statement further said, "the decision represents a great victory. For others it means either the creation of a new, involved and most difficult system of doing business with the individual copyright owners or a compulsory surrender by exhibitors to the producers of motion pictures of their privilege to negotiate with one central agency concerning the amount which they as exhibitors shall pay for performing rights."

The TOA was instrumental in negotiating the current Ascap theatre rate, which represents a huge reduction from the fees originally demanded by the society last August.

Ascap Weighs

(Continued from page 1)

"The Society derives relatively little revenue from theatres and if its members were to negotiate individually for the performing rights to their motion picture music they would more than likely obtain more than they do now for those rights and, at the same time, Ascap would be relieved of the labor, costs and taxes of handling theatre licensing."

(Ascap collected almost \$2,000,000 from theatres last year.)

The official pointed out that in states which had enacted anti-Ascap legislation, causing the Society to withdraw, the resultant confusion inevitably led the users of performing rights to petition the states to repeal or modify the legislation and thereby permit Ascap to resume operations.

See No Radio Suits

Ascap officials scoffed at the suggestion that radio broadcasters, hotels, dance halls, restaurants and other Ascap performing rights licensees might sue for relief similar to that obtained by the ITOA.

"We think," said one Ascap official, "that broadcasters would be genuinely concerned if they thought their existing contracts with the Society would be disturbed."

It was pointed out that it would be next to impossible for broadcasters to function without the protection of blanket performing rights licenses inasmuch as they could be prosecuted for unauthorized performances of music picked up incidentally by broadcasts from convention halls, at sports events and other program sites.

Industry legal quarters discounted the Ascap intimation that an appeal from the New York decision might not be taken by the Society, the general feeling being that the legality of Ascap's blanket licensing system is too important either to be ignored by the Society or to be left by it in an indeterminate state.

Plaintiffs May Appeal

ITOA sources intimated that regardless of Ascap's action on an appeal, plaintiffs in the case might appeal on their own from Judge Vincent L. Leibell's denial of damages to them.

It is expected in legal circles that several months will elapse before an order is entered in the ITOA-Ascap case. Thereafter, the litigants have 90 days from the date of entry of a decree, in which to file a notice of appeal with the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals here. Indications are, in view of the importance of the case, that a stay of Judge Leibell's order would be granted pending a final decision on appeal.

It is regarded as a certainty that the case ultimately would go to the U. S. Supreme Court after the Circuit court has acted. Therefore, attorneys estimate that the case may be in the courts for another 18 months to two years.

It was filed in 1942.

Trans-Lux Acquires Dobbs Ferry House

Trans-Lux Corp. has purchased the Embassy Theatre, Dobbs Ferry, N. Y., for a reported \$250,000 as the first step in an expansion move, according to William M. Girden, president. The property originally was built for RKO about 20 years ago at a cost of \$500,000. Greenfield and Fromme sold the house to Trans-Lux.

**HUMPHREY
BOGART**

**EDWARD G.
ROBINSON**

KEY LARGO

WITH **LIONEL BARRYMORE** **CLAUDE RAINS**

**ALL-TIME
N.Y. STRAND**

AND **THOMAS GOMEZ · JOHN RODNEY** DIRECTED BY **JOHN H. AUSTIN**

LAUREN BACALL

E TREVOR



SOCK STARTING!

RECORD

**WARNERS
TOPPED
EVERYTHING
IN 34
YEARS !!!**

PRODUCED BY
TON · JERRY WALD

Screen Play by Richard Brooks and John Huston • Based on the Play by MAXWELL ANDERSON
As Produced on the Spoken Stage, by the Playwrights Company • Music by Max Steiner



It Has The Thrills Of TWO Pictures

One of the great productions in screen history is carving out a *second* history-making, glory-covered career as it not only matches but TOPS new high-budget hits in first 5 test dates:—

NEW YORK—first re-release ever to play the Rivoli and it opened to the Rivoli's top business in several months.

CHICAGO—first week 60% over its strong predecessor, a new high-budget hit.

ROCHESTER—18% over current new release featuring 3 outstanding stars . . . and within seven dollars of one of the industry's most sensationally grossing melodramas of 1948.

DENVER—beat receipts of new picture released in peak months of 1947.

SALT LAKE CITY—first 3 days topped by wide margin 3 important current-season, big-star hits.

 You Can Do Above-Average New-Picture Business With This Spectacular Reissue from

Paramount

Cecil B. DeMille's

★★ **THE CRUSAIDERS**

s...The Draw of NEW Pictures

screen triumph so fabulous
ould cost \$8,000,000 to re-
duce! The clash of mighty
ies! A city besieged by
unted legions! Mile long
ts—and a cast so big it
uld take 2 hours to pass
e Rivoli in parade formation!

THOUSANDS of
knights scale rolling
towers to storm the
Saracen stronghold!

GIANT war catapults
rain deadly fireballs on
a beleaguered city!

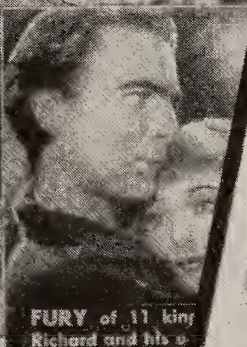
OUGH FOR TWO PICTURES
OR THE ROARING FOURTH!

Paramount Presents
Cecil B. DeMille's
Stupendous, Thrill-Splashed Spectacle!

THE CRUSADE

Cast of 10,000 with
LORETTA YOUNG · HENRY WILCOXON

and
Ian Keith · Katherine deMille · C. Aubrey Smith · Joseph Schildkraut
Alan Hale · George Barbier · Montagu Love · Pedro De Cordoba



SLAVE GIRLS sold
the market place
to brutal despots!

**SPECTACLE SO VAST IT WOULD COST
8 MILLION DOLLARS TO REPRODUCE!**

Ten thousand men ready
to die—so that one fabled
beauty might love again!
Imposing sets that stretch
as far as the eye can see!
A cast larger than the pop-
ulation of many American
cities!

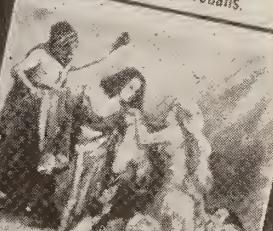
Look where you will—
the "biggest" buy
"Big Street" for
holiday

SEE The Market Place where
the loveliest girls in
tendom are sold to

NEW ADS that pulled bigger
first-night grosses at N. Y. Rivoli than
full Saturday opening figures for a pre-
vious new show. Write home-office or
our local representative for repro art.



SEE Mounted legions storm
besieged city! Giant cat-
apults hurling deadly fireballs.



YES

BOOK "THE MAGIC CITY"—FREE!

Estimates of Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY correspondents. Estimates omit admission tax.

LOS ANGELES

"Key Largo," doing double-average business in the three Warner first-runs, held a monopoly on the good news of an otherwise quiet box office week. Weather was ideal for attendance, what with Coastal fogs cutting down the counter-attraction of the beaches, but first-runs, with the brilliant exception of the Warner group, did not reflect it. Meanwhile, the new hot-rod racing, experiencing a popularity likely to sprout nationwide significance sooner or later, began to be counted in as among the reasons why the younger set is not standing in line at theatre box-offices. (Remember miniature golf?) Estimated receipts for the week ended July 21:

DEEP WATERS (20th-Fox) and **THE CHECKERED COAT** (20th-Fox)—CAR-THAY CIRCLE (1,516) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00) 6 days. Gross: \$9,000. (Average: \$9,500)
DEEP WATERS (20th-Fox) and **THE CHECKERED COAT** (20th-Fox)—CHIN-ESSE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00) 6 days. Gross: \$14,500. (Average: \$13,000)
DEEP WATERS (20th-Fox) and **THE CHECKERED COAT** (20th-Fox)—LOE-VA'S STATE (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00) 6 days. Gross: \$25,000. (Average: \$19,800)
DEEP WATERS (20th-Fox) and **THE CHECKERED COAT** (20th-Fox)—LOY-OLA (1,255) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00) 6 days. Gross: \$10,000. (Average: \$10,000)
DEEP WATERS (20th-Fox) and **THE CHECKERED COAT** (20th-Fox)—UP-TOWN (1,716) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00) 6 days. Gross: \$10,500. (Average: \$10,100)
DREAM GIRL (Para.) and **SECRET SERVICE INVESTIGATOR** (Rep.)—PARAMOUNT (Downtown) (3,595) (50c-60c-80c-\$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: \$11,500. (Average: \$16,450)
DREAM GIRL (Para.)—PARAMOUNT (Hollywood) (1,407) (50c-60c-80c-\$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: \$7,500. (Average: \$13,000)
FIGHTING FATHER DUNNE (RKO Radio) and **THE STRAWBERRY ROAN** (Col.)—HILLSTREET (2,700) (50c-60c-80c-\$1.00). Gross: \$17,500. (Average: \$18,950)
FIGHTING FATHER DUNNE (RKO Radio) and **THE STRAWBERRY ROAN** (C.I.)—PANTAGES (2,000) (50c-60c-80c-\$1.00). Gross: \$15,200. (Average: \$17,170)
KEY LARGO (WB) and **MUSIC MAN** (Monc.)—WARNERS (Downtown) (3,400) (50c-60c-80c-\$1.00) 6 days. Gross: \$25,000. (Average: \$13,730)
KEY LARGO (WB) and **MUSIC MAN** (Monc.)—WARNERS (Hollywood) (3,000)

(50c-60c-80c-\$1.00) 6 days. Gross: \$22,000. (Average: \$11,650)
KEY LARGO (WB) and **MUSIC MAN** (Monc.)—WARNERS (Wiltern) (2,300) (50c-60c-80c-\$1.00) 6 days. Gross: \$22,000. (Average: \$11,220)
MAN-EATER OF KUMAON (U-I) and **GUNS OF HATE** (RKO Radio)—GUILD (965) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00). Gross: \$5,500. (Average: \$5,450)
MAN-EATER OF KUMAON (U-I) and **GUNS OF HATE** (RKO Radio)—IRIS (708) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00). Gross: \$6,000. (Average: \$6,100)
MAN-EATER OF KUMAON (U-I) and **GUNS OF HATE** (RKO Radio)—RITZ (1,376) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00). Gross: \$8,000. (Average: \$9,050)
MAN-EATER OF KUMAON (U-I) and **GUNS OF HATE** (RKO Radio)—STUDIO (880) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00). Gross: \$6,000. (Average: \$6,300)
MAN-EATER OF KUMAON (U-I) and **GUNS OF HATE** (RKO Radio)—UNITED ARTISTS (2,100) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00). Gross: \$12,500. (Average: \$9,580)
NEXT TIME WE LOVE (Realart Re-release) and **MY MAN GODFREY** (Realart Re-release)—MUSIC HALL (Beverly Hills) (900) (65c-85c-\$1.00) 6 days. Gross: \$2,800. (Average: \$3,150)
NEXT TIME WE LOVE (Realart Re-release) and **MY MAN GODFREY** (Realart Re-release)—MUSIC HALL (Downtown) (900) (65c-85c-\$1.00) 6 days. Gross: \$6,500. (Average: \$7,550)
NEXT TIME WE LOVE (Realart Re-release) and **MY MAN GODFREY** (Realart Re-release)—MUSIC HALL (Hawaii) (1,000) (65c-85c-\$1.00) 6 days. Gross: \$3,200. (Average: \$3,400)
NEXT TIME WE LOVE (Realart Re-release) and **MY MAN GODFREY** (Realart Re-release)—MUSIC HALL (Hollywood) (490) (65c-85c-\$1.00) 6 days. Gross: \$2,300. (Average: \$3,100)
RUTHLESS (E-L) and **SHED NO TEARS** (E-L)—BELMONT (1,600) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00) 5 days, 2nd week. Gross: \$3,500. (Average: \$5,750)
RUTHLESS (E-L) and **SHED NO TEARS** (E-L)—EL REY (861) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00) 5 days, 2nd week. Gross: \$4,000. (Average: \$5,700)
RUTHLESS (E-L) and **SHED NO TEARS** (E-L)—ORPHEUM (2,210) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00) 5 days, 2nd week. Gross: \$8,000. (Average: \$14,650)
RUTHLESS (E-L) and **SHED NO TEARS** (E-L)—VOGUE (800) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00) 5 days, 2nd week. Gross: \$4,500. (Average: \$6,500)
THE SEARCH (M-G-M)—FOUR STAR (900) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00) 3rd week. Gross: \$7,000. (Average: \$7,450)
SUMMER HOLIDAY (M-G-M) and **BIG CITY** (M-G-M)—EGYPTIAN (1,000) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: \$9,000. (Average: \$11,900)
SUMMER HOLIDAY (M-G-M) and **BIG CITY** (M-G-M)—FOX-WILSHIRE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: \$10,000. (Average: \$12,850)
SUMMER HOLIDAY (M-G-M) and **BIG CITY** (M-G-M)—LOS ANGELES (2,096) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: \$15,000. (Average: \$18,100)

SAN FRANCISCO

Overall gross business this week was so-so. "Easter Parade" looked particularly strong. Estimated receipts for the week ended July 20:

ANOTHER PART OF THE FOREST (U-I)—UNITED ARTISTS (1,465) (85c) 2nd week. Gross: \$7,200. (Average: \$11,300)
EMPEROR WALTZ (Para.)—PARAMOUNT (2,735) (60c-85c) 4th week. Gross: \$14,500. (Average: \$19,500)
EASTER PARADE (M-G-M) and **THE WINNER'S CIRCLE** (20th-Fox)—FOX (4,651) (60c-85c). Gross: \$34,500. (Average: \$23,000)
ELLZAPOPPIN (U-I) and **ARGENTINE NIGHTS** (U-I)—STATE (2,135) (60c-85c). Gross: \$6,500. (Average: \$8,500)
ON AN ISLAND WITH YOU (M-G-M) and **MONEY MADNESS** (FC)—WAR-FIELD (2,672) (60c-85c). Gross: \$21,500. (Average: \$18,800)
THE PARADISE CASE (SRO)—ST. FRANCIS (1,450) (60c-85c) 6th week. Gross: \$10,000. (Average: \$14,600)
RETURN OF THE BAD MEN (RKO Radio) and **FRENCH LEAVE** (Mono.)—RKO GOLDEN GATE (2,835) (95c). Gross: \$17,500. (Average: \$27,000)
THE STREET WITH NO NAME (20th-Fox) and **BLONDE ICE** (FC)—UNITED NATIONS (1,129) (60c-85c) 1st week on a moveover. Gross: \$4,500. (Average: \$9,900)
UP IN CENTRAL PARK (U-I) and **BAD SISTER** (U-I)—UNITED ARTISTS (1,465) (85c). Gross: \$7,200. (Average: \$11,300)
UP IN CENTRAL PARK (U-I) and **BAD SISTER** (U-I)—ESQUIRE (1,003) (55c-85c). Gross: \$6,400. (Average: \$9,000)

OMAHA

First-run business varied. Estimated receipts for the week ending July 21-23:

FEUDIN', FUSSIN' AND A-FIGHTIN' (U-I) and **ARTHUR TAKES OVER** (20th-Fox)—OMAHA (2,000) (50c-65c) 2nd week for "Feudin'," on a moveover from Orpheum. Gross: \$5,600. (Average: \$8,500)
THE FULLER BRUSH MAN (Col.) and **PORT SAID** (Col.)—RKO-BRANDEIS (1,100) (50c-65c) 2nd week. Gross: \$7,000. (Average: \$6,900)
HOME COMING (M-G-M)—STATE (750) (50c-65c) 3rd week. Gross: \$5,000. (Average: \$4,900)
THE MAN FROM TEXAS (E-L)—ORPHEUM (3,000) (55c-85c). Mills Brothers on stage. Gross: \$21,100. (Average: \$18,300)
ROMANCE ON THE HIGH SEAS (WB)—PARAMOUNT (2,900) (50c-65c). Gross: \$10,200. (Average: \$11,400)

DENVER

"Homecoming" is in a second big week at the Orpheum after a top opening week. "Emperor Waltz" and "Best Years of Our Lives" are in their fifth weeks at the Denham Broadway, respectively. Estimated receipts for the week ending July 21:

BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—BROADWAY (1,500) (35c-74c) 4th week. Gross: \$8,000. (Average: \$9,000)
CANON CITY (E-L) and **LADY AT MIDNIGHT** (E-L)—PARAMOUNT (2,200) (35c-74c) 2nd week. Gross: \$8,000. (Average: \$10,000)
EMPEROR WALTZ (Para.)—DENHAM (1,750) (35c-70c) 4th week. Gross: \$9,500. (Average: \$11,000)
HOME COMING (M-G-M)—ORPHEUM (2,600) (35c-74c). Gross: \$21,000. (Average: \$13,500)
NOOSE HANGS HIGH (E-L) and **AS-SIGNED TO DANGER** (E-L)—ALADDIN (1,400) (35c-74c). After a week at the Denver and Esquire. Gross: \$3,000. (Average: \$2,500)
ROMANCE ON THE HIGH SEAS (WB) and **WINNER'S CIRCLE** (20th-Fox)—DENVER (2,525) (35c-74c). Gross: \$15,500. (Average: \$13,000)
ROMANCE ON THE HIGH SEAS (WB) and **WINNER'S CIRCLE** (20th-Fox)—WEBBER (750) (35c-74c). Gross: \$2,500. (Average: \$2,000)

KANSAS CITY

Rain some days kept public from outdoor sports, caused postponement of ball games and helped most theatres. Estimated receipts for the week ending July 20-22:

ANOTHER PART OF THE FOREST (U-I)—FAIRWAY (700) (45c-65c) 5 days. Gross: \$850. (Average: 5 days: \$1,350)
ANOTHER PART OF THE FOREST (U-I)—TOWER (2,100) (45c-65c) 5 days. Gross: \$3,750. (Average: 5 days: \$5,750)
ANOTHER PART OF THE FOREST (U-I)—UPTOWN (2,000) (45c-65c) 5 days. Gross: \$2,750. (Average: 5 days: \$4,250)
EASTER PARADE (M-G-M)—MIDLAND (3,500) (45c-65c). Gross: \$31,000. (Average: \$15,000)
THE EMPEROR WALTZ (Para.)—PARAMOUNT (1,900) (45c-65c) 3rd week. Gross: \$10,000. (Average: \$10,000)
OLD LOS ANGELES (Rep.) and **TIMBER TRAIL** (Rep.)—ESQUIRE (800) (45c-65c). Gross: \$5,000.
RETURN OF THE BAD MEN (RKO Radio) and **SONG OF MY HEART** (AA-Mono.)—ORPHEUM (1,900) (45c-65c). Gross: \$10,500. (Average: \$10,000)

RKO Radio Pictures, Inc.
TRADE SHOWINGS
 of **LEO McCAREY'S**

"GOOD SAM"

NEW DATE FOR
NEW YORK
RKO 58th ST. THEATRE
 58th St. and 3rd Ave.
MON. JULY 26, 8:45 P.M.

ALBANY
GRAND THEATRE
 11 Clinton Avenue
TUES. JULY 27, 8:30 P.M.

Nyberg Back to Portland

SPOKANE, July 21.—Oscar F. Nyberg, one of Evergreen's veteran managers and for a number of years manager of the Fox Theatre in Spokane, has been named manager of the Orpheum in Portland, where he was associated some years ago. Nyberg is slated to take over his new duties on August 1.

'Films Not Killing Stage'

KNOXVILLE, Tenn., July 21.—"Contrary to popular opinion, films are not killing the legitimate theatre—there are more stage productions now than there were before motion pictures were introduced," declared Dr. Paul L. Soper, dramatic director at the University of Tennessee.

Sunday Shows Lose

PULASKI, Tenn., July 21.—Sunday films lost by a small vote in a recent election. Those in favor promise to "try again soon"

'Town Meeting' on Video

"America's Town Meeting," heard on American Broadcasting on Tuesdays, will be shown on ABC television simultaneously beginning August 10. In addition to the television network presentation, "Town Meeting" will be filmed for showing on ABC video stations not served by cable or relay systems.

Jack Slocum to NBC

Jack Slocum, former radio and publicity director of the New York Yankees, has joined the press department here of National Broadcasting as magazine editor.

Dance Hall - Theatre

ELYRIA, O., July 21.—An open-air dance theatre, combining a dance floor, with name bands and a 30-minute program of short subjects is scheduled to open here tomorrow, under the supervision and management of A. W. Jewell, president of Dance Theatre, Inc.

New NBC Video Station

Signing of Station KDYL-TV, Salt Lake City, as an NBC television affiliate was announced by Easton C. Woolley, director of NBC's stations department.

FULL HOUSE?

it's a cinch with...

"TEXAS, BROOKLYN and HEAVEN"

sent from UA

20th-Fox Sets 30 'A's for '48-'49 Season

Skouras Cites Global Scope of Production

TORONTO, July 22.—Pointing up the international flavor and authenticity of locale, along with the partly documentary, or realistic, character of a large portion of its new program, Spyros P. Skouras, president of 20th Century - Fox, today disclosed production and distribution plans of the company through July, 1949, for 30 "A" features, five of them already delivered.

It is understood that the company will have, additionally, approximately 19 films from independent producers.

The program will be supervised by

(Continued on page 6)

Winner of Quigley Award to M. H. Post

Charles R. Hacker, district manager of Standard Theatres Management, Milwaukee, and 1948 winner of the Martin Quigley Silver Award for showmanship, yesterday was appointed administrative assistant of the Radio City Music Hall by G. S. Eyssell, executive manager of Rockefeller

(Continued on page 3)

Table Fire-Guard Bill After Owners Protest

PHILADELPHIA, July 22.—City Council's public safety committee today voted to postpone action indefinitely on an ordinance that would have required motion picture operators and all operators of places of public assembly to employ special fire guards. The action followed protests by hotel and theatre men.

In speaking against the measure, Morris Wax, president of the Philadelphia Theatre Association, said he felt theatre patrons were amply protected under existing regulations and that every theatre employee now feels

(Continued on page 3)

NAB, D of J Plan No Legal Action On Ascapi Licenses

WASHINGTON, July 22.—Officials of the National Association of Broadcasters do not intend to attack in the courts Ascapi's blanket music licensing of radio.

Asked whether the New York court decision holding blanket licensing of theatres illegal might not lead to similar suits by broadcasters, NAB spokesmen declared that "everybody is perfectly happy and no one is thinking of suing."

They pointed out that the industry's present contract with Ascapi runs through Dec. 31, 1949, and that all the industry's dealings with Ascapi have been on a negotiation, rather than litigation, basis. "We're leaving well enough alone," one official said.

Meanwhile, Justice Department officials declared that the New York

(Continued on page 3)

AFM Now Bids for Pact Talks in N.Y.

In a new move to initiate negotiations with the industry for a new contract covering studio musicians the American Federation of Musicians has invited producers to meet with president James C. Petrillo and other AFM representatives in New York the week of August 9. A spokesman for the AFM said yesterday that the federation was awaiting a response from producers to the invitation.

Originally the AFM had tried to get the producer representatives to hold the negotiations in Chicago starting August 2. They rejected the bid on the grounds a Chicago meeting would cause them too much inconvenience.

Adult B. O. Prices Steady, Children's Down, U. S. Says

Reliance in U.A. Deal For Two Pictures

Contracts for the distribution of two Reliance Pictures productions were closed yesterday with United Artists, it was announced by Arthur W. Kelly, UA executive vice-president, and Edward Small, head of Reliance.

The first will be "Indian Scout," now in the editing stage. The second will be "Leather Stocking Tales," from the James Fenimore Cooper novel.

UK FILM LOANS UP TO \$20 MILLIONS

Ascapi Board Weighs U. S. Court Decision

The Federal Court opinion holding Ascapi in violation of the anti-trust statutes was taken up by the society's board of directors at a session here yesterday, with no decision reported to have been reached on any problems raised by Judge Vincent L. Leibell's ruling. The meeting was adjourned to Monday afternoon, when the matter will be given further consideration by the board. It is believed that a decision on whether to take an appeal to the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals will be made at that time.

SAG Board Rejects "One Union" Plan

HOLLYWOOD, July 22.—The Screen Actors Guild board today unanimously voted down a proposition, promulgated recently in New York, that would have merged all acting unions into one union.

Board based rejection on grounds that the proposed set-up would compel Hollywood actors to rely on representation of a paid governing body headquartered in New York, instead of its own local body consisting of actors elected by the membership, and would necessitate an increase in dues to meet increased operating expenses.

Gov't Will Guarantee Production Financing: Wilson-Cripps' Proposal

By PETER BURNUP

LONDON, July 22.—Harold Wilson, president of the Board of Trade, announced to the House of Commons today the government's intention to create a Film Finance Corporation having at its disposal \$20,000,000, with powers to make loans on reasonable commercial terms for the financing of film production here.

In the initial stages, the loans will be advanced to distributors who, in turn, will provide financing to producers.

Wilson's announcement in Commons drew a succession of pungent questions concerning the proposal from Winston Churchill. After replying to them, Wilson promised a full debate on the subject when the bill providing for creation of the Corporation and supplying it with capital is introduced in Commons at a later date.

The Corporation will not have power

(Continued on page 6)

Smakwitz Heads WB Theatres Up-State

ALBANY, July 22.—The promotion of Charles A. Smakwitz, Warner Theatres executive in Albany, to zone manager for this territory, was announced today by Harry M. Kalmine, president of the circuit. He succeeds C. J. Latta, who will take charge of Warner theatre operations in England.

Smakwitz has been assistant zone manager to Louis Lazar, Moe Silver

(Continued on page 3)

Phila. Appeals Court Rules Five Conspired

PHILADELPHIA, July 22.—The third United States Circuit Court of Appeals held today the five major distributors "conspired" to withhold first-run features from the Ball Penn Theatre in Ambridge, Pa. The action reversed a ruling by District Judge Robert M. Gibson in Pittsburgh, who had dismissed the suit filed on behalf of the theatre on the ground of failure to prove conspiracy.

(Continued on page 3)

Personal Mention

SIDNEY FRANKLIN, M-G-M producer, is scheduled to sail for Paris today on the *Nieuw Amsterdam*.

HERBERT STEINBERG, Eagle Lion newspaper and column contact, and **CAROLINE DOOLITTLE** of Houston, Tex., are to be married at the Hampshire House here on Sunday.

RUDY BERGER, M-G-M Southern sales manager, and **CHARLES E. KESSNICH**, district manager, are due here on Sunday from Washington and Atlanta, respectively.

FRED C. QUIMBY, head of M-G-M short subjects production, has postponed his visit to New York from the Coast to October.

H. M. RICHEY, head of exhibitor relations for M-G-M, will leave New York on Monday for French Lick, Ind.

ELEANOR PARADEIS, owner of Pam-O Films Exchange, Buffalo, was a Gloversville, N. Y., visitor this week.

JOHN CICERO, Paramount advertising production manager, is celebrating a birthday today.

CHARLES BICKFORD is expected here from Hollywood tomorrow for the premiere of "The Babe Ruth Story."

BERT CLASTER, general manager of the Hippodrome, Baltimore, is in Atlantic City on vacation.

JOHN GUILFOYLE of Paramount's advertising production department will leave on vacation today.

EDWARD DOWDEN of Loew's exploitation staff here is vacationing at Nassau Point, Long Island.

'Easter' A Holdover In 35 Opening Runs

M-G-M's "Easter Parade" was being held over or moved over in 35 key city openings throughout the country, according to the home office. At least 20 additional engagements are expected to be held over or moved over when they complete first weeks today, it was reported.

'Mickey' Admission Cut at N.Y. Gotham

All children under 12 will be admitted to the Gotham Theatre here during the run of Eagle Lion's "Mickey," at a special reduced price of 35c, effective immediately, it was announced yesterday by the management.

\$95,000 for 'Key Largo'

Warners' "Key Largo" completed its first week at the Strand here last night with a gross estimated at \$95,000, the highest single week's business in the theatre's history. Count Basie and Billie Holiday are on the stage.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

THE American career of "Henry V," chronicled from time to time in this space, continues to rate attention on its own score, but also because it clearly limns the pattern into which "Hamlet" may be expected to fall. This is how it goes with "Henry":

By July 1, United Artists had played and completed 801 engagements in all of these broad United States. Total box-office gross was \$3,866,499, or if you go for averages, \$4,827 per engagement. UA has made some fancy, percentage deals for this film, including one chap in Arizona, who coughed up 70 per cent and, by some miraculous kind of calculation, came out satisfied. After advertising and expense, the distributor now tallies 41.38 per cent of the gross receipts for his end. Or, \$1,589,957 to share with the producer.

Nice going as far as it goes. Yet the end obviously is not yet in sight. "Henry" has considerable vitality left. It will take time, probably running into a modest total of years, before its revenue-producing capabilities dry up.

A producer has to be patient while he slowly recoups on an investment of "Henry" and "Hamlet" characteristics. He also has to be fortunate enough to be enabled to operate under a financial setup which is prepared to wait three, four or more periods beyond the time usually set aside for films to amortize. This is much more rare than commonplace.

The history of "Henry," however, tends to prove once more that substantial returns are possible with specialized attractions strung out carefully over long periods of release. No exhibitor can keep his house going with them and no distributor can long stay alive, but there is a market outside the regular picture house which the occasional "Henry," or something like it, can tap to advantage.

British product today is shown in 95 territories to increasing audiences. J. Arthur Rank declared in his "olive branch" speech before the general council of the Cinematograph Exhibitor Association in London a few days ago. "In Australia, in New Zealand, in South Africa, in every country

where our product is shown consistently exhibitors are making money with British films. In Canada in the last two years or so where we have been able to give British films continuity of exhibition in our theatres the percentage of screen time has risen from approximately four per cent to 25 per cent and those theatres are taking no less money," he observed.

Rank seemed to place considerable emphasis on the Canadian situation because, he continued: "This is important because in America, three years ago, the leaders of the Hollywood industry told me time and again that the Canadian market and the American market were virtually the same. Yet in America by last year we were starting, but only starting, to make an impression."

This sounds painfully and almost unbelievably naive. It's quite obvious what executives were saying was that the American and Canadian markets were virtually the same from their point of view—an American point of view about American pictures, of course. Canadians like U. S. product, but who ever said it follows that Americans necessarily like what the Canadians like?

Worth watching is the re-teaming of Ginger Rogers and Fred Astaire in "The Barkleys of Broadway." Metro planned this musical as a follow-up of the already vastly successful "Easter Parade," but Judy Garland's illness forced her out of the picture.

Not since 1939 and "The Story of Vernon and Irene Castle" have Astaire and Rogers starred together. In back of that one, of course, were their musicals of fond memory and large grosses. Like "Top Hat" and "The Gay Divorcee."

The New York Times survey of a declining entertainment world included statements which pointed out film grosses are off from seven to 12 per cent.

Seven to 12 per cent off from what? None of the quoted authorities thought it important to state grosses were merely receding from 150 per cent of their previously known, pre-war recorded high.

Bien, Ashe on N.S.S. Sales Drive Tour

William Bien, National Screen Service mid-West division manager and Eastern captain of the NSS sales promotion drive, is currently on a tour of the company's Eastern offices to promote branch sales activities. Ben Ashe, Los Angeles branch manager, is performing in a similar capacity in the West.

Bien and Ashe were named captains of the sales drive at the company's recent meetings in Atlantic City and Los Angeles.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
BING CROSBY JOAN FONTAINE
in "THE EMPEROR WALTZ"
Color by TECHNICOLOR
A Paramount Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

Paramount presents
JEAN ARTHUR MARLENE DIETRICH JOHN LUND
in "A Foreign Affair"
JO STAFFORD
plus GEORGIE KATE THE LANE BROTHERS
Extra SAM DONAHUE And His Orchestra
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE MIDNIGHT FEATS NIGHTLY

JOHN FORD'S MASTERPIECE
"FORT APACHE"
Special! LENA HORNE
PAUL WINCHELL
Extra! SKINNAY ENNIS and his ORCH.
COOL CAPITOL B'way & 51st St.

Paramount Presents
RAY MILLAND ANN TODD GERALDINE FITZGERALD
in HAL WALLIS production
"So Evil My Love"
DOORS OPEN 9:30 A. M. RIVOLI 8'way & 49th Street

MARK STEVENS • RICHARD WIDMARK
"THE STREET WITH NO NAME"
A 20th Century-Fox Picture
ON VARIETY STAGE—CAB CALLOWAY
JACKIE MILES • VIVIAN BLAINE
ON ICE STAGE—CAROL LYNNE
ARNOLD SHODA • THE BRUISES
ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

LOIS BUTLER in
MICKEY
IN CINECOLOR
Brandt's Cool
New GOTHAM B'way at 47th St.
LOIS BUTLER will appear on stage today at 3:27, 7:45, 9:54

Censor Board Asks Status in Video

BALTIMORE, July 22.—The Maryland State Board of Motion Picture Censors has requested a ruling from Maryland's attorney general on the former's responsibility in television censorship.

The request was made by Helen C. Tingley, chairman of the board, receiving a letter from Lauritz E. Garman, president of Theatre Owners Association of Maryland, which posed the question of television censorship. Garman's letter also stated that exhibitors are concerned about competition from television.

Under present Maryland law, a charge of \$2 is levied for every 1,000 feet of film reviewed, with the cost paid by the producers. Television, having no such review of its films, incurs no expenses.

A questionnaire was sent by Mrs. Tingley to censor boards in neighboring states on television censorship. Most replied that they were doing nothing "as yet."

NAB, D of J, Ascap

(Continued from page 1)

court's action has no effect on the Department's anti-trust suit against Ascap's international ties, and that there is no present intention to try to set aside the present consent decree and revive the original anti-trust prosecution on Ascap's domestic negotiations. "Most of that decree dealt with broadcasting, anyhow, and wouldn't be affected by this decision," one official declared.

Justice officials were obviously jubilant over the decision, declaring that "Ascap has really been dealt quite a blow."

Fire Guard Bill

(Continued from page 1)

responsible for the protection of the public.

Councilman Charles E. O'Halloran suggested to Wax that theatre owners show movie trailers cautioning the patrons against smoking, and designating the nearest exit in case of fire. Wax said he felt this was a good suggestion.

Eagle Lion Gets 'Blanche'

J. Arthur Rank's "Blanche Fury" will be released in the United States by Eagle Lion, William J. Heineman, E-L vice-president in charge of distribution announced. The picture will open to a pre-release engagement here at the Sutton Theatre.

Pioneers' Records

Because it is desired to have on file a permanent background record of the members of the Picture Pioneers, every member of that organization is being asked by Jack Cohn, president, for a photograph and thumbnail biography of himself.

Calls Drive-In a Hazard

FRESNO, Cal., July 22.—Application has been denied E. W. Stokes, representing Lippert Theatres, to build a new drive-in north of the city, the planning Commission stating the denial was based on the grounds that open-air theatres create traffic hazards.

Paul Lazarus, Jr., On Air Show Sunday

Paul N. Lazarus, Jr., United Artists executive assistant to the president, will be heard on National Broadcasting's radio show, "Author Meets the Critics," at five P. M. on Sunday with William Cagney's production of "The Time of Your Life" up for discussion. Lazarus made his video debut recently, participating in a similar panel-discussion program. Others to appear on the "Life" broadcast are Tom Wenning, film and theatre editor of *Newsweek*; Wally Butterworth, radio performer, and John Gassner, playwright.

Wanger, Goldwyn in 'Joan' Release Deal

HOLLYWOOD, July 22.—A deal between Walter Wanger and Samuel Goldwyn, under which the latter would distribute the former's "Joan of Arc" on a roadshow basis, with RKO Radio handling it physically, is being negotiated today. Goldwyn Productions president James Mulvey is acting for Goldwyn.

It is understood that neither Goldwyn nor Wanger are bound by the U. S. Supreme Court decision in the Paramount case in connection with the ban against roadshowing, as both are independents and were not parties to the suit. Wanger reportedly wishes the picture to be handled by the Goldwyn sales set-up which marketed "The Best Years of Our Lives" for high grosses.

B. O. Prices Steady

(Continued from page 1)

December to 160.0 at the end of March. At the end of March, 1947, the index was at 162.5, dropped to 158.5 in June, and then rose through the rest of 1947.

Adult admissions, which were at 167.7 at the end of December, remained there through the first quarter of this year. They are up considerably from the March, 1947, level of 165.7 and the June-September level of 164.1.

The decline in the children's price index dropped the combined children-adult index by one-tenth of one point, to 166.8, as compared with 166.9 at the end of December.

The combined index was 165.4 at the end of March, 1947, and 163.5 at the end of June.

The 1935-'39 average is 100.

Variety Benefit Sept. 19

BALTIMORE, July 22.—The Variety Club of Baltimore is joining the Variety Club of Washington in sponsoring a benefit football game at Baltimore Stadium on September 19 when the Washington Redskins will play the Chicago Bears. Proceeds are to be divided among the welfare funds of the two teams. Rodney Collier and Spaulding Albert are co-chairmen of the benefit.

Venice Theatre Fire

VENICE, Ill., July 22.—The Yalta Theatre here has been damaged by fire, with losses estimated at \$15,000. A discharged employee is being sought by police on an arson warrant.

New Detroit Drive-in

DETROIT, July 22.—Nicholas George, operator of the Allen Park Theatre, tomorrow will open his new drive-in house on Toledo Highway here.

Cooling Engineers Set To Strike This A.M.

Barring late developments last night, theatre air-conditioning engineers were set to go on strike here at 9 A.M. today failing the receipt of a new wage offer from most of the large Broadway houses and the RKO and Loew's circuits by that time. Involved are some 175 to 200 men.

The members of Local 30, International Union of Operating Engineers, AFL, on Wednesday turned down a 10 per cent increase offered by the theatres. The union is holding out for 15 per cent.

A theatre spokesman said yesterday that the theatres will not curtail operations, strike or no strike.

Music Hall Post

(Continued from page 1)

Center and president of the Radio City Music Hall Corp.

Hacker will succeed Jack F. Dailey, who has been promoted to the newly-created post of manager of operations of the Music Hall and Center Theatre. Dailey joined the Music Hall staff in 1946 after four years with the Army Air Forces and 14 years with Paramount prior to the war.

Hacker, who is 27, had many posts in Milwaukee theatres before becoming manager of the Fox there at the age of 19. He later filled the same post at the Palace there. During the war he was a lieutenant in the Army Air Forces and upon his return to the States he rejoined Fox Wisconsin, managing theatres in downtown Milwaukee. Last year he left Fox to handle special assignments for Standard Theatres Management, and seven months later was named district manager.

Hacker is the 12th Quigley Award winner to climb to a higher executive position in the industry. He sent his first campaign to the Managers' Round Table of Motion Picture Herald in 1946.

His and Dailey's new appointments will become effective on August 1.

10,000 Houses Have Played 'Heritage'

To date, over ten thousand theatres have played the pre-"Rededication Week Trailer" and the one-reel documentary, "Our American Heritage," during the "Week of Rededication" prior to the visit of the Freedom Train, it is announced by Ned Shugrue, national director of the American Heritage Foundation, sponsors of the Freedom Train.

The cooperation of the industry in the first 10 months of the program of the Foundation and the tour of the Freedom Train have been outstanding, Shugrue added. National Screen Service is distributing the trailer and the documentary gratis as a public service.

CBS Promotes Connolly

Thomas D. Connolly, with Columbia Broadcasting since 1939, has been appointed manager of program sales, network division, it is announced by William C. Gittinger, CBS vice-president in charge of sales.

Televises 'Ruth' Opening

Opening night ceremonies of Allied Artists' "The Babe Ruth Story" at the Astor Theatre here Monday, will be televised by WPIX. Dignitaries in all walks of life will be among those attending.

Trans-Lux Buys 3 Manhattan Houses

The purchase of three Manhattan theatres by Trans-Lux Corp. has been announced by William M. Girden, president.

The houses are the 900-seat Colony at 79th Street and Second Ave.; the 2,300-seat Monroe at 1456 First Ave., and the 450-seat Granada at 346 East 72nd Street. The sellers were Eisenbrand, Inc., Monthe Corp., Inc., and Granthecorp, Inc., respectively.

Total rentals and cash consideration involved are reported at approximately \$1,600,000. Substantial improvements are contemplated. It is expected that a feature policy with shorts will be set for the new houses. With the three new houses, Trans-Lux now has six on Manhattan's east side. The Granada will be renamed Trans-Lux 72nd Street; the Colony, the Trans-Lux Colony; and the Monroe, the Trans-Lux Monroe.

Production Drops To 33 Shooting

HOLLYWOOD, July 22.—The production tally fell back to 33 as compared to last week's total of 36. Two pictures were started, while five went to the cutting rooms.

Shooting started on "Smoky Mountain Melody," Columbia, and "Adventures of the Cisco Kid" (Krasne), United Artists.

Shooting finished on "Triple Threat," Columbia; "Baltimore Escape," "Every Girl Should Be Married," RKO Radio; "The Gay Amigo" (Krasne), UA; "Black Velvet," Universal-International.

'Red River' Italian Rights Bring Big Sum

Amerigo Benefico, president of Variety Film Distributors, Inc., has bought the Italian rights to "The Red River," Howard Hawks' production for United Artists release. It is understood the deal, made directly with Arthur W. Kelly, executive vice-president of UA, involved a consideration close to \$100,000, said to be one of the top sums to be paid for the Italian rights to an American film since the war.

Smakwitz in Albany

(Continued from page 1)

and Latta. He joined the Strand Theatre, N. Y., in 1917 and was transferred shortly thereafter to the Strand, Syracuse. He later became manager of the Strand, Albany, and in 1927 became district manager for Troy, Albany and Utica, as well as film buyer and booker.

Rules in Phila.

(Continued from page 1)

The Circuit Court's 2-1 ruling held that a conspiracy did exist and that it was in violation of the Sherman and Clayton anti-trust laws.

The defendants are Paramount Pictures, Inc.; Paramount Film Distributing Corporation; RKO-Radio Pictures, Inc.; Loew's, Inc., and Twentieth Century-Fox Film Corporation. The court ordered the companies to stop discriminating against the Ball group and to pay the family "damages" for all losses sustained through being deprived of first-run features.

...



...The company
industry on

and in Boxoffice Champions
presents its first boxoffice-



THE STREET WITH NO NAME

Starring

MARK STEVENS
RICHARD WIDMARK

Directed by WILLIAM KEIGHLEY

Produced by SAMUEL G. ENGEL

Original Screen Play by Harry Kleiner



Cornel Wilde · Linda Darnell
Anne Kirk
BAXTER · DOUGLAS

in

THE WALLS OF JERICHO

with ANN DVORAK

Directed by JOHN M. STAHL

Produced by LAMAR TROTTI

Screen Play by Lamar Trotti



More Hits Than Any Other Company

that led all the
the *VARIETY* scoreboard*
s* the first half of 1948...
g-4 for the 2nd half of '48!



BETTY GRABLE
DOUGLAS FAIRBANKS, Jr.
in

**THAT LADY
IN ERMINE**

Color by TECHNICOLOR
Produced and Directed by
ERNST LUBITSCH
Screen Play by Samson Raphaelson



TYRONE POWER
ANNE BAXTER
in

**THE LUCK OF
THE IRISH**

with CECIL KELLAWAY
Directed by HENRY KOSTER
Produced by FRED KOHLMAR
Screen Play by Philip Dunne



Twice As Many As Any Other Company

20th-Fox Has 49

(Continued from page 1)

Darryl F. Zanuck, vice-president in charge of production, and Joseph M. Schenck, production executive. "Lydia Bailey" and "Black Rose," to be made in England, are not included in the new season's releases.

The lineup was announced here at a sales meeting of home office and Canadian executives, marking the company's first such session outside the United States. The "global-scale" production policy is described as "strengthening the company's position by affording fluidity through worldwide operations and coincides with the position of the film industry with respect to blocked funds in foreign countries," Skouras said.

He reported that complete units of directors, stars and technicians will be sent to locations in Canada, Europe and sections of the U. S. for pictures "whose themes require special authenticated backgrounds and locales."

The new product was listed by Andrew W. Smith, general sales manager, and a completed promotion program was described by Charles Schlaifer, director of advertising, publicity and exploitation.

The five pictures completed and delivered are: "The Walls of Jericho," "That Lady in Ermine," "Escape," "Forever Amber" and "The Law and Martin Rome."

Completed and in various stages of editing:

"The Luck of the Irish," Tyrone Power and Anne Baxter; Fred Kohlmar, producer; Henry Koster, director.

"Apartment for Peggy," in color, Jeanne Crain, William Holden and Edmund Gwenn; William Perlberg, producer; George Seaton, director.

"When My Baby Smiles at Me," in color, Betty Grable and Dan Dailey; George Jessel, producer; Walter Lang, director; from the play, "Burlesque."

"Unfaithfully Yours," Rex Harrison and Linda Darnell; written, produced and directed by Preston Sturges.

"That Wonderful Urge" (tentative title), Tyrone Power and Gene Tierney; produced in Sun Valley and Hollywood by Fred Kohlmar; directed by Robert Sinclair.

"Road House," Cornel Wilde, Ida Lupino; written and produced by Edward Chodorov; directed by Jean Negulesco.

"Yellow Sky," Gregory Peck, Anne Baxter and Richard Widmark; produced by Lamar Trotti, directed by William A. Wellman.

"The Snake Pit," a Darryl F. Zanuck presentation; Olivia De Havilland

British Film Finance

(Continued from page 1)

er to own, lease or build theatres or studios, Wilson revealed.

"It will naturally conduct its affairs along business lines," he said, "and will have the final decision on whether or not a loan is to be made and, if so, on what terms."

The government intends that the corporation shall be active for five years.

Wilson, in agreement with Sir Stafford Cripps, Chancellor of the Exchequer, is drafting an interim measure constituting the company with financing raised by a Treasury guarantee under the Borrowing Control and Guarantees Act under which the Treasury has power to guarantee a loan if satisfied that it is expedient and in the public interest to do so for the purpose of facilitating the reconstruction or development of an industry.

Loans under the interim measure will be limited to \$10,000,000, or one-half of the total financing contemplated.

The necessary preparations have been placed in the hands of an organizing committee, of which J. H. Lawrie, distinguished City finance authority, is chairman.

Wilson emphasized to Commons that the film industry is similar to other competitive industries and must "conduct its affairs so that it can obtain money on reasonable commercial terms," but that the present position is an abnormal one for the industry and particularly for independent producers who have not yet had a chance to establish necessary working capital after the dislocations of the war period.

Wilson confessed that difficulties were encountered after his earlier pledge to assist independent producers but added that a solution is urgent and expressed the hope that Commons will support the proposals. He said he hoped that later on it will be practicable for the Corporation to assist with financing of production and distribution by other methods.

Wilson said he is confident of securing the cooperation of commercial banks in developing the film industry

and Mark Stevens; from the novel by Mary Jane Ward; produced by Anatole Litvak and Robert Bassler; directed by Anatole Litvak. (Completed, with pre-release runs set for this year).

Currently before the cameras:

"The Fan," based on the Oscar Wilde play, "Lady Windermere's Fan"; Jeanne Crain, Madeleine Carroll, George Sanders and Richard Greene; produced and directed by Otto Preminger.

"Sand," in color, Mark Stevens, Coleen Gray; produced by Robert Bassler and directed by Louis King.

"Chicken Every Sunday," from the novel by Rosemary Taylor; Dan Dailey, Celeste Holm; produced by William Perlberg, directed by George Seaton.

"Three Wives," Linda Darnell, Jeanne Crain and Ann Sothern; produced by Sol C. Siegel, directed by Joseph L. Mankiewicz.

"The Prince of Foxes," from the novel by Samuel Shellabarger. Currently in production in Rome with Tyrone Power and Wanda Hendrix; produced by Sol C. Siegel, directed by Henry King. Also:

which is growing in importance in Britain's economy and balance of payments.

Churchill, questioning Wilson, asked, first, Is the failure of the City to subscribe film financing some sinister scheme of theirs or because they think public money is insufficient to sustain profitable enterprises of film people?

Secondly, Is the government proposing stepping into this project without question of profit-making and investing national funds in what, on its face, is a losing proposition?

Thirdly, Isn't this a great departure for something not a necessity of life?

Fourthly, Will the government, now definitely entering the film business with the taxpayers' money, ensure that there will be no attempt to exercise political control of films as is done in Russia?

Wilson replied that an emergency has arisen in the industry and that it is absolutely essential to solve the country's balance of payment problem. Hence, this scheme.

He said he didn't expect for one minute that it is likely to lose public money under the proposal. He looks forward to a long period of prosperity for the film industry here.

Wilson assured Churchill there is no question of the new Corporation interfering with the choice of film subjects. The financing provision will be limited purely to the entertainment value of the films proposed, he said.

Replying to other questions, Wilson said his proposals related to independent producers outside the J. Arthur Rank organization, which hitherto has been able to finance its own production program, but that the Corporation, at its discretion, could assist Rank if he applies and his propositions are acceptable.

A new stirring of hope among distressed independent producers was discernible immediately following Wilson's announcement. Nettlefold Studios, closed since June 14, are to re-open within a matter of days.

"The Affairs of Adelaide," based on "Britannia Mews," by Margery Sharp; Maureen O'Hara and Dana Andrews. Under production in England by William Perlberg and directed by Jean Negulesco.

Scheduled for production within the next two months:

"Mr. Belvedere Goes to College," Clifton Webb; produced by Samuel G. Engel.

"Mother Is a Freshman," produced by Walter Morosco.

In preparation:

"Come to the Stable," an original by Clare Booth Luce; produced by Samuel G. Engel.

"I Was a Male War Bride," Cary Grant; produced in Europe by Sol C. Siegel; directed by Howard Hawks.

"Royal Canadian Mounted Police," to be produced in Canada.

"Call Me Mister," based on the musical stage play, produced by George Jessel.

"Down to the Sea in Ships," produced by Louis D. Lighton; directed by Henry Hathaway.

"The Beautiful Blonde From Bashful Bend," Betty Grable; written, pro-

Para. Ad Promotion Plan Aids TOA Drive

In cooperation with Theatre Owners of America's current drive to "sell" the public on forthcoming Hollywood product, Paramount is making available to theatre owners through company branch managers special advertising mats which can be used to create lobby display "blow-ups" in addition to regular use for newspaper advertisements.

"It is agreeable with us," Charles M. Reagan, Paramount distributor vice-president, has informed the branch managers, "if theatre owners wish to substitute for some of the Paramount pictures in the ads one or two of the triple 'A' pictures of other companies."

UA Omits 'Merry Way' From Chicago Bidding

CHICAGO, July 22.—Although United Artists' new competitive bidding plan in Chicago, which was initiated with "Arch of Triumph" is understood to be working out favorably, "On Our Merry Way," next UA release here, will not be sold under the bidding-zoning plan, but probably under the old system of release.

Deals for "Triumph" in the first exclusive zone comprising 11 theatres, have already been closed and will play eight theatres in that zone on either July 30 or August 6. Theatres bidding first run have a clearance protection of seven to 14 days.

Oppose 20th-Fox Bid For Oakland Station

WASHINGTON, July 23.—Edwin Pauley's Television California today opposed 20th Century-Fox's request to include plans for an auxiliary station at Oakland, Calif., in its application for a San Francisco television station. Columbia Broadcasting has already told the Federal Communications Commission that it opposes allowing 20th-Fox to amend its San Francisco application.

At the same time, 20th Century-Fox of Missouri opposed KMVC's application for a Kansas City television station. 20th-Fox of Missouri has also applied for a Kansas City channel.

duced and directed by Preston Sturges.

"Sweet Sue" in color, June Haver. "Beyond Five Fathoms," to be directed by Elia Kazan in Florida; screenplay by Richard Murphy.

"Cloak of Romance," Richard Widmark; produced and directed by Otto Preminger.

Participating in the convention sessions today were the following home office executives: W. C. Gehring, assistant general sales manager; Charles Schlaifer, director of advertising and publicity; Martin Moskowitz, executive assistant to Smith; Peter Levathes, short subjects sales manager; Clarence A. Hill, manager of branch operations; Frank Carroll, Roger Ferri and Jack Bloom. The Canadian delegation, headed by Arthur Silverstone, division manager, included the following branch managers: V. M. Skorey, Calgary; Edward English, Montreal; R. G. March, St. John; H. J. Bailey, Toronto; J. E. Patterson, Vancouver; and J. H. Huber, Winnipeg; also exploitation representative Sam Glasier, and the Toronto salesmen and bookers.

OF COURSE

you'll make money with...

"TEXAS, BROOKLYN and HEAVEN"

sent from UA



His pen-and-ink people live for laughter...

BORN on the drawing board, though they are, these little people have the breath of life and laughter that captures hearts the world around—thanks to the creative genius of the animator.

His knowing lines belie the fact that they are folk of fantasy... of pen and ink and paint. For each and every one has the human touch... has been fully endowed with character and lifelike move-

ment, through the animator's artistry.

Yet—for all his wit and skill—the animator could not present his gift of laughter to the moviegoing world without the help of film. And this—in types especially adapted to his needs—he finds in the famous Eastman family, whose Fine Grain Master Positive and Background X Negative have been the animator's faithful mediums for many years.

EASTMAN KODAK COMPANY

ROCHESTER 4, N. Y.

J. E. BRULATOUR, INC., DISTRIBUTORS
FORT LEE • CHICAGO • HOLLYWOOD



HERE'S THE **EXHIBITORS' STORY** WITH A **TERRIFIC**
OPENING AND A **Record-Breaking Ending!**

♦ **RKO GRAND CHICAGO BIGGEST BIZ** IN 6 MONTHS! (HELD OVER!) ★ **LOEWS**

NEW HAVEN RECORD BIZ (DESPITE HEAT) ★ **RKO ROCHESTER**

TOP GROSSES!

★ and **IT NEVER LETS UP!**

If produced today these **TECHNICOLOR SPECTACLES** would cost **\$7,000,000**

Alexander Korda presents
DRUMS
In Technicolor

SABU
RAYMOND MASSEY
DESMOND TESTER
ROGER LIVESEY
VALERIE HOBSON
And A Cast of 3,000

LOEWS: NEW HAVEN, BRIDGEPORT, WATERBURY, NORWICH, WORCESTER, HARTFORD, CLEVELAND, TOLEDO, ST. LOUIS, BUFFALO, PITTSBURGH, MEMPHIS

RKO: CHICAGO, ROCHESTER, SYRACUSE, MINNEAPOLIS

WARNER: CIRCUIT **FOX:** CIRCUIT

Alexander Korda presents
FOUR FEATHERS

In Technicolor

Starring
JUNE DUPREZ

PARAMOUNT: CIRCUIT
FABIAN: ALBANY, ALLENTOWN, HARRISBURG, RICHMOND, NORFOLK, SCHENECTADY
INTERSTATE: CIRCUIT

5 ACADEMIES: LOS ANGELES
ADAMS: NEWARK
CABRILLO: SAN DIEGO

RIALTO: NEW YORK
4TH WEEK!
BILL GOLDMAN'S FIRST RUN "PHILLY"

IT'S ANOTHER **SURPRISE** from **FILM CLASSICS, INC.**

Accurate
Concise
and
Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

FIRST
IN
FILM
NEWS

64. NO. 17

NEW YORK, U.S.A., MONDAY, JULY 26, 1948

TEN CENTS

Doubts About Rathvon Will Wilson's Plan Leave RKO Spread in U.K. On August 31

Seen as Device to Get Himself "Off a Spot"

LONDON, July 25.—Widespread misgivings concerning the plan of Harold Wilson, president of the Board of Trade, to establish a \$20,000,000 Film Finance Corp. to make loans to independent producers are being voiced in trade and government circles following disclosure of the plan in the House of Commons last week.

The consensus of opinion is that Wilson produced a hurried, ill-digested instrument in order to free himself from a self-contrived quandary resulting from his initial pledge to assist independent producers and his subsequent support of the new 45 per cent film quota, which it is highly unlikely British production can support.

(Continued on page 5)

Jackson to MPAA's Legal Staff in N.Y.

HOLLYWOOD, July 25.—Judge Stephen S. Jackson, member of the Motion Picture Association of America's Production Code Administration, has been appointed to the legal department of the MPAA New York office, Eric A. Johnston, president, announced today. Here since April, 1947, Jackson had acted as Production Code Administrator during the absence of Joseph I. Breen, who had been ill. Breen, recovered, has resumed his administrative duties.

Berger May Employ N. Y. Ascap Decision

Minneapolis, July 25.—Ben Berger, independent circuit operator and president of North Central Allied, indicates the likelihood of his attorneys making an effort to reopen his own case for refusal to comply with Ascap's music seat licensing, now under advisement in Federal Court here, to incorporate the ruling and judgment of the New York court which last week held the society's theatre levies to be illegal.

N. Peter Rathvon, president of RKO since 1942, resigned on Fri- day.

His resignation was submitted by letter to a meeting of the RKO board in New York and, subsequent to receipt of the letter, Howard Hughes asked Rathvon to continue as president until the scheduled meeting of the RKO stockholders on August 31.

A widely-circulated report in the trade is that Ned E. Depinet, executive vice-president of RKO, will be named to succeed Rathvon. However, no confirmation of the report or

(Continued on page 5)

Rites For Griffith On Coast Tomorrow

HOLLYWOOD, July 25.—David Wark Griffith, 73, one of the earliest pioneers in production, died at eight o'clock Friday morning in Temple Hospital, to where he had been removed following a cerebral hemorrhage sustained Wednesday night in his apartment in the Hotel Knickerbocker here. He had been in fine health and only a few hours previous had a long chat with Marshall Neilan. Ruth and Willard Griffith, neice and nephew of Griffith, were



D. W. Griffith

(Continued on page 5)

TOA Albany Survey On Building Code

ALBANY, N. Y., July 25.—The Albany unit of the Theatre Owners of America will canvass its members by questionnaire to ascertain opinions of the latest revised New York building code on which the State Board of Standards and Appeals held a final meeting in New York on Wednesday. TOA is particularly concerned with whether objections should be raised against the code's ban on popcorn machines using combustible liquids in lobbies.

Extend Withholding Tax Payment Dates

Washington, July 25.—The Treasury has given employers more time to turn in taxes withheld from workers' paychecks. Taxes withheld in March, June, September and December may now be deposited in banks to the Government's credit as late as the final day of the following month, while taxes withheld in the other eight months need not be deposited until 15 days after the month's end, instead of the present 10 days.

3 Changes Proposed In Taft-Hartley Law

WASHINGTON, July 25.—House Labor Committee Chairman Hartley has come out for three changes in the Taft-Hartley law, all of interest to the film industry.

Hartley is not a candidate for reelection, and no action on the Taft-Hartley Act is likely at the special session, so his opinions are held to be chiefly of interest as indicating the thinking of Republican Congressional leaders.

Changes suggested by the New Jersey Republican would:

Require employers to sign affidavits that they are not Communists before they can seek National Labor Relations Board aid in a labor dispute; at present only union officers must sign such affidavits.

Eliminate the requirement for NLRB elections before a union shop can be granted—Hollywood unions have opposed the election provision.

Forbid the use of force or intimidation to keep non-striking workers from their jobs during a strike—to protect the worker's "right to work," as requested in hearings by Hollywood producer Cecil B. DeMille.

MPAA May Survey Theatre Revenues

A survey to determine box-office receipts around the country to provide a more exact insight on business fluctuations is contemplated by the Motion Picture Association of America as part of its research program. While the new quest for data is said to be only in the conversational stage at this time, it is considered likely that the association will get started on it sometime following the completion of its surveys on drive-in theatres and advertising expenditures, now being conducted.

'47 Industry Profits Were \$161 Millions

Under 1946, But Over The Two Prior Years

WASHINGTON, July 25.—Corporate profits after taxes in the U. S. motion picture industry totaled \$161,000,000 in 1947, off sharply from the record \$202,000,000 reported for 1946, according to the Commerce Department.

It compares with profits of \$104,000,000 after taxes in 1945, and \$102,000,000 in 1944.

Commerce officials said the report covered all segments of the industry. In addition to giving the 1947 figures for the first time, the report made

(Continued on page 5)

FCC Denies 20th's Video Application

WASHINGTON, July 25.—Federal Communications Commissioner George E. Sterling has turned down 20th Century-Fox's request to amend its application for a San Francisco television station to include plans for an auxiliary station at Oakland. The company will appeal the decision to

(Continued on page 5)

Loew, deRochemont To Produce 'Digest'

RD-DR Corp., a new motion picture company, has closed with The Reader's Digest Association for a series of factual films based on articles appearing in *The Digest*, it was revealed today in a joint weekend announcement by A. L. Cole, general business manager of *The Digest*, and Borden Mace, president of RD-DR.

The films will be prepared under supervision of Louis de Rochemont, M-G-M producer, and will be known as "Dramas of Real Life." Loew-M-G-M will produce and distribute the first group in the series. Editors of *The Digest* will actively collaborate with Rochemont and M-G-M in locating and developing factual stories.

Newsreel Parade

THE arrest of local Communist leaders and Gen. Clay's arrival in Washington mark current newsreel highlights. In other sequences, Gen. Hershey explains the draft, college girls sport fashions, and B-29's arrive in England. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 59—General Clay arrives in Washington. American B-29's fly to England. British jets cross Atlantic. Anti-Communist rally in Berlin. Gen. Hershey explains new draft law. France decorates U. S. Lieutenant Murphy. New York Communists seized by FBI. Sports: Olympic torch starts trip to London. Skiing.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 293—Berlin crisis holds world spotlight. FBI roundup of Red leaders. College girl fashions. London set for 1948 Olympics. Czechs hold Sokol gymnastic carnival.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 96—Gymnastic eye-fall: 20,000 women in Sokol drill. Vanport, Ore.: Flood city lifts head above water. Master's voice saves dog. Berlin crisis: Clay recalled from Berlin. FBI arrests top Reds. Draft plans announced. B-29's in England.

UNIVERSAL NEWS, No. 163—Red crisis in Berlin. American superforts arrive in England. Gen. Clay in Washington. Gen. Hershey gives draft instructions. Reds on trial. Turkey gets U. S. submarines. Farmer Brown's "magic" cell. Bastille Day. Stork busy at Bronx zoo.

WARNER PATHE NEWS, No. 98—U. S. Reds arrested. Two U. S. soldiers honored. Gen. Clay reports on Berlin. Gen. Hershey takes over new draft. Tiny tigers. Sculpturing in ice. Sky sailing in the Alps. Great Events: Fulton's Steamboat.

Frangoles, Wisper In New Albany Posts

ALBANY, N. Y., July 25. — James Frangoles, former assistant booker at the Paramount exchange here, has been appointed head booker and office manager at RKO Radio, succeeding William Murray, resigned. Helen Wisper, formerly secretary to Dan Holihan, manager of the 20th Century-Fox branch, has been named head booker for that company, succeeding Stanelly Yentes, resigned.

New Firm Will Deal In Advertising Films

Theatre Audience Advertising has been formed here to represent both exhibitors and sponsors of advertising film in contracts for bookings. The organization plans to handle all arrangements and servicing with the actual contract negotiated directly between theatremen and advertiser.

U. S. Video Study

WASHINGTON, July 25.—The Agriculture Department is studying the use of television as a means of bringing the benefits of agriculture and home economics research to farm and city people. One phase of the study will seek to determine the adaptability of movies, still pictures and other techniques to television.

Quiz Show on Films

"MovieLand Quiz," new television program concerning films and stars, made its debut on American Broadcasting's Eastern network last night.

Some Houses Sign With Engineers

Some of the large houses involved in a wage dispute with Local No. 30, International Union of Operating Engineers, AFL, reached tentative agreements with the union on Friday pending final action to be taken by the other houses affected by the controversy. Among the theatres that came to an accord with the air-conditioning engineers were the Roxy, Radio City Music Hall, Astor and Centre. The agreements, retroactive to April 1, are understood to be for one year. The union went on strike at other houses in the Metropolitan area that refused to meet demands for a 15 per cent wage boost.

Picketing activities were started following a meeting at which the union members confirmed a strike vote taken on Thursday.

The struck houses, pressing into service every available cooling device, reported business little affected by the shutting down of air-conditioning systems.

IMPPA Signs Pact With Actors Guild

HOLLYWOOD, July 25.—As anticipated, the Independent Motion Picture Producers Association at the weekend approved a new contract with the Screen Actors Guild, which parallels the recently-negotiated SAG contract with the Association of Motion Picture Producers and the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers in all details save the special concessions equivalent to those granted a year ago, to producers making features budgeted under \$100,000, or Westerns under \$50,000.

\$75,000 Pledged to Will Rogers Fund

CHICAGO, July 25.—District and branch sales managers here endorsed a plan to raise approximately \$75,000 in the Illinois territory on behalf of the Will Rogers Memorial Fund, at a luncheon-meeting held at the Blackstone Hotel. Spearheading the meeting were William F. Rodgers, Robert Mochrie and Charles M. Regan, general sales heads of Loew's RKO Radio and Paramount, respectively.

Harold Stevens Paramount branch manager in Chicago, was appointed general chairman here representing distributors and Jack Kirsch, Illinois Allied president, and Edward Zorn, UTOI president, were made co-chairmen for exhibitors.

Henigson to Vanguard

HOLLYWOOD, July 25.—Henry Henigson has joined Vanguard Films in an "executive capacity," the company announces here. Henigson's most recent position here was representing RKO Radio interests in Walter Wander's filming of "Joan of Arc."

New ABC Video Unit

Television station WSEE, St. Petersburg-Tampa, Fla., has become an affiliate of American Broadcasting.

Contest Baltimore Radio Censor Rule

BALTIMORE, July 25.—Supreme Bench contempt citations naming five radio stations and a news commentator here are expected to lead to a test of the court's power of censorship where crime reporting on radio is concerned, it is said here. The court had charged the defendants with violating its rules on news when they broadcast some details of a murder case provided by a news service.

Charles A. Roeder, program director and assistant general manager of station WCBM, cited by the court, charges here that the court's action affects the freedom of press and radio and is national in scope. He explained that news of Baltimore can be heard on Baltimore stations from a network point of origin outside the city.

ATOI Three-Day Meet Starts Today

FRENCH LICK, Ind., July 25.—A. W. Smith, 20th Century-Fox general sales manager; Henderson Richey, in charge of exhibitor relations for M-G-M, and Ben Berger, president of North Central Allied, are among those who will address the Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana's summer convention, which opens here tomorrow, and will run through Wednesday.

Smith and Berger will present the conciliation plan effected in Minneapolis by both, and Richey will explain how to get the most out of trailers.

New Film Company Headed by Marks

Formation of Jewish Film Distributors, a releasing company headed by Elias Marks, has been announced here. The organization's efforts will be devoted exclusively to foreign films, with emphasis on Jewish and Palestinian films.

The company's first release is "We Live Again," a documentary scheduled for an August premiere here.

Prints Are Moving In Flooded Kansas

KANSAS CITY, July 25.—Further rains accentuated flood conditions in Southeastern Kansas, overflowing rivers in some locations being as much as three miles wide. In several areas waters are in city streets. No flooding of theatres have been reported and no reports were heard of prints having failed to arrive in time or failed to get back to exchanges.

Delay K-B Arguments

WASHINGTON, July 25.—Argument has been set for August 2 on the Warner motion to put off until September 30 further proceedings in the suit by K-B Amusement Co. to force Warner out of the jointly-owned MacArthur Theatre. Warner asked for the postponement to allow its lawyer, Philip Amram, to return from Europe, but K-B opposed any delay.

Personal Mention

JAMES MULVEY, president of Samuel Goldwyn Productions, was en route to New York from Hollywood at the weekend.

FLOYD K. HORTON, manager of the Rose Theatre, Dublin, Ga., and **F. S. HORTON**, recently became parents of a son, **FLOYD KENDALL HORTON, JR.**

WILLIAM HARTLEY has been named managing editor, and **WILLIAM JEFFERS** has been named story editor of *Modern Screen* magazine.

RICHARD WALSH, IATSE president, left New York over the weekend for a business stay in Hollywood of indefinite duration.

ARTHUR HORNBLow, JR., M-G-M producer, arrived here over the weekend from the Coast en route to Portland, Me.

C. J. FELDMAN, Western division sales manager for Universal-International, left here at the weekend for Chicago.

MILTON LIVINGSTON, of Universal-International's home office publicity staff, will begin a week's vacation today.

FREDERICK BRISSON, Independent Artists' executive producer, is due back here from Europe on Thursday.

MAX E. YOUNGSTINE, Eagle-Lion advertising-publicity director, is touring the Midwest from New York.

TOM WALLER, MPAA's New York public relations director, will begin a week's vacation today.

FRANK ROGERS, president of Florida State Theatres, is due here on Wednesday from Jacksonville.

EDWIN KNOPF, M-G-M producer, will arrive here Wednesday from London.

Hollywood Searching For New Material

Hollywood is engaged in a search for new material, "something that will give what might be called 'believability' to films," declared Mrs. Alice Evans Field, director of the studio and public service department of the Motion Picture Association of America's community relations division, as she left here at the weekend by plane on her return to Hollywood. Mrs. Field is the studio liaison with 14 previewing groups.

Schwartz, Frohlich Move

The law offices of Schwartz and Frohlich, industry attorneys, will be located at 19 East 70th Street, beginning today. Forced to move because of the unavailability of additional space needed at its former location, the law firm purchased the building at that address. Moving was completed over the weekend.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone Circle 7-3100. Cable address: "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo J. Sullivan, Vice-President and Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Feeke, Advertising Manager; Gus H. Fausel, Production Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 120 South La Salle Street, Editorial Representative. Washington, J. A. Otten, National Press Club, Washington, D. C. London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1. Hope Burnup, Manager, Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald; Theatre Sales; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, \$6 in the Americas and \$12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

Technicolor Print Delivery Speeded

Two years ago Technicolor started an expansion program from 160,000,000 feet per year print manufacturing volume to a goal of 320,000,000 feet a year by the end of 1948. Technicolor is already enjoying more than 50% of this increased capacity, which it is EMPLOYING ENTIRELY TO IMPROVE THE DELIVERY TIME OF PRINTS.

Domestic Deliveries

By the end of 1948 it is expected that Technicolor print deliveries will be back to normal, that the lapse of time until delivery of prints on the average will be about 5 months from the completion of photography and about 2 months from the time Technicolor receives the cut negative.

Foreign Deliveries

Interval between approval of the foreign sample print and delivery of foreign version release prints has been reduced to about 3 months and time required by Technicolor to prepare a foreign version sample print has been reduced to about 5 weeks. THE TIME OF DELIVERY OF TECHNICOLOR FOREIGN VERSION PRINTS IS BACK TO NORMAL.

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HERBERT T. KALMUS, PRESIDENT AND GENERAL MANAGER

MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	EAGLE-LION	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIV.-INT'L.	WARNERS	SRO
July 11	(July Releases) THUNDERHOOF William Bishop Preston Foster D-77 min.		EASTER PARADE (Color) Judy Garland Fred Astaire M-103 min. (Rev. 5/26/48)	THE SHANGHAI CHEST Roland Winters D-65 min. (4718)		MOONRISE Dane Clark EYES OF TEXAS (Color) Roy Rogers O-70 min. (732) (Rev. 7/19/48)	BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES Myrna Loy Freddie March D-172 min. (751) (Rev. 11/22/46)		FOUR FACES (Re-release) Joel McCrea Frances Dee D-90 min. (Rev. 5/14/48)		GOO'S COUNTRY AND THE WOMAN (Re-release) D-71 min. (729) FLOWING GOLF (Re-release) D-82 min. (730) (Rev. 8/26/40)	MR. BLANDINGS BUILDS HIS ORCHARD Cary Grant Myrna Loy C-96 min. (206) (Rev. 3/25/48) (Release date, 7/11/4)
July 18	CORONER CREEK (Color) Randolph Scott Marguerite Chapman D-90 min. (Rev. 6/3/48)	SHEO NO TEARS Wallace Ford June Vincent D-70 min. (829)		BACK TRAIL Johnny Mack Brown O	OREAM GIRL Betty Grable Macdonald Carey C-85 min. (Rev. 5/6/48)	RETURN OF THE BADMEN Randolph Scott Robert Ryan O-90 min. (817) (Rev. 5/27/48)			VICIOUS CIRCLE Conrad Kertner Fritz Kertner D-77 min. (Rev. 5/27/48)	(July Releases) BAO SISTER Margaret Lockwood Ian Hunter D-90 min. (Rev. 6/11/48)	KEY LARGO Humphrey Bogart Edward G. Robinson D-101 min. (731) (Rev. 7/7/48)	THE PARAGINE CASE Gregory Peck Ann Todd Valli D-117 min. (105) (Rev. 12/30/47) (Release date, 8/1/48)
July 25	ARKANSAS SWING Hoosier Hotshots Gloria Henry M	NORTHWEST STAMPEDE Joan Leslie James Craig O-79 min. (830) (Rev. 7/30/48)	A OATE WITH JUDY (Color) Wallace Beery Jane Powell Elizabeth Taylor MD-113 min. (Rev. 6/18/48)	16 FATHOMS DEEP Lon Chaney, Jr. D-80 min. (Rev. 6/30/48)	GALLANT LEGION William Elliott (Rev. 5/28/48) MARSHAL OF AMARILLO Alan "Rocky" Lane O	MELODY TIME (Color) Olin Eugene D-75 min. (893) (Rev. 5/20/48)		(July Releases) THE STREET WITH NO NAME Mark Stevens D-91 min. (Rev. 6/23/48)	THE TIME OF YOUR LIFE James Cagney William Bendix D-109 min. (Rev. 5/25/48)	ABBOTT AND COSTELLO MEET FRANKIE Bud Abbott Lou Costello C-83 min. (Rev. 7/6/48)		PORTRAIT OF JENNIE Jennifer Jones Joseph Cotton (Release date, Sept.)
Aug. 1	BLAZING ACROSS THE PECOS Charles Starrett Smiley Burnette O-55 min.	THE SPIRITUALIST Turhan Bey Lynn Bari D-79 min. (827)	THE SEARCH Montgomery Clift Aline MacMahon D-105 min. (Rev. 3/22/48)	SO EVIL MY LOVE Ray Milland Ann Todd D-109 min. (4723) (Rev. 5/24/48)	NIGHT TIME IN NEVADA (Color) Roy Rogers O			MINE OWN EXECUTIONER Burgess Meredith D-105 min. (824) (Rev. 6/7/48)	TEXAS, BROOKLYN AND HEAVEN Diana Lynn Guy Madison C-76 min. (Rev. 7/15/48)	LIFE WITH FATHER (Color) William Powell Irene Dunne D-118 min. (702) (Rev. 8/15/47)	DRUMS (Re-release) Raymond Massey (Color) (Rev. 7/26/48) (Release date, 7/11/48)	FOUR FEATHERS (Re-release) Ralph Richardson (Rev. 7/24/39) (Release date, 7/18/48)
Aug. 8	(Aug. Releases) STRAWBERRY ROAN (Color) Gene Autry Gloria Henry O-79 min. (Rev. 4/20/48)	OLIVER TWIST Robert Newton D-115 min. (828)		A JOE NAMED PALOOKA Joe Kirkwood Elyse Knox D	DAREDEVILS OF THE CLOUDES Robert Livingstone O-60 min. (Rev. 7/16/48)	THE PEARL Pedro Armendariz D-77 min. (867) (Rev. 2/13/48)				EMBRACEABLE YOU Dane Clark Geraldine Brooks D		SOFIA Gene Raymond (Release date, 7/30/48)
Aug. 15	BLACK EAGLE, THE STORY OF A HORSE William Bishop Virginia Patton O	LAOY AT MIDNIGHT Richard Denney Frances Rafferty D-61 min. (Rev. 7/21/48)			A FOREIGN AFFAIR Jean Arthur John Lund D-117 min. (Rev. 6/14/48)	THE VELVET TOUCH Rosalind Russell Leo Genn C-97 min. (Rev. 7/20/48)		(Aug. Releases) WALLS OF JERICHO Linda Darnell Cornel Wilde D-106 min. (Rev. 7/8/48)	RED RIVER John Wayne Montgomery Clift D-125 min. (Rev. 7/12/48)		TWO GUYS FROM TEXAS (Color) Dennis Morgan Jack Carson C-86 min.	EAGLE SQUADRON (Re-release) D-109 min. (Rev. 6/16/42) (Release date, 8/5/48)
Aug. 22	ADVENTURES OF GALLANT BESS Cameron Mitchell D			(Allied Artists) THE DUDE GOES WEST Eddie Albert Gale Storm C-87 min. (448) (Rev. 4/26/48)	BEYOND GLORY Alan Ladd Onna Ford D-82 min. (4726) (Rev. 6/17/48)	CODE OF SCOTLAND YARD Oscar Homolka D	GOOD SAM Gary Cooper Ann Sheridan D	THE WINNER'S CIRCLE Jean Willes D		(Aug. Releases) TAP ROOTS (Color) Van Heflin Susan Hayward D-109 min. (Rev. 6/24/48)		GUNG HO D-88 min. (Rev. 12/21/43) (Release date, 8/5/48)
Aug. 29	TRAIL TO LAREDO Charles Starrett Smiley Burnette O-54 min.	HOLLOW TRIUMPH Paul Henreid Jean Bennett D	JULIA MISBEHAVES Greer Garson Walter Pidgeon D					LADY IN ERMINE Betty Grable Douglas Fairbanks D-89 min. (Rev. 7/14/48)	PITFALL Dick Powell Elizabeth Scott D	MR. PEABODY AND THE MERMAID William Powell Ann Blyth C-89 min. (Rev. 7/8/48)		MIRACULOUS JOURNEY Audrey Long D (Release date, 8/8/48)
Sept. 5								FIGHTING BACK Paul Langton D-61 min. (Rev. 7/12/48)				BLONDE ICE Leslie Brooks D-72 min. (Rev. 5/28/48) (Release date, Sept.)
Sept. 12			A SOUTHERN YANKEE Red Skelton Brian C									SCREEN GUILD
Sept. 19					SORRY, WRONG NUMBER Barbara Stanwyck Burt Lancaster Douglas Fairbanks D-89 min.							RETURN OF WILDFIRE Richard Arlen D (Release date, 8/5/48)
												JUNGLE WILDFIRE Wanda McKay D (Release date, 8/10/48)

[Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following: (D) Drama. (M) Musical. (C) Comedy. (O) Outdoor Action. Production Numbers Are in Parentheses. (Rev.) Motion Picture Daily Review Date.]

Wilson Plan

(Continued from page 1)

Wilson also is on record as having said at one stage that the government could not contemplate a subsidy of public money for film production.

Saddled with his pledge to the independents, however, he came up with the present proposal after he had imperturbed orthodox financial sources render assistance, without avail. These sources are aware, from bitter experience, of the hazardous conditions of film financing.

Following British exhibitors' forthright declarations that it will be impossible for them to fulfill the unexpectedly high quota with the picture output of J. Arthur Rank and other production combines, Wilson was compelled to eat his own words and improvise any device which could possibly bolster British production.

An indication of the lameness of Wilson's position was seen in his uneasiness under the cross-examination to which he was put by Winston Churchill, minority leader of Commons, when Wilson broached his plan last Thursday. The tenor of Churchill's questioning of Wilson then was the opposition's protest to what they feel is Wilson's evasion of proper Parliamentary consideration before attempting to hurry his face-saving proposal through Commons.

The trade generally criticizes the Wilson plan on the grounds that it is not desirable that the financing be administered through established distributors, there being no guarantee that pictures suitable for effective exhibition will thereby materialize. It is being commonly suggested that Wilson ultimately will be driven to establish state-controlled distribution for his own protection.

This lends point to a considerable demand being heard that the government enact legislation to divorce production from exhibition.

National newspapers reflect much of the foregoing in varying degree in their comments on the Wilson financing plan.

Lord Beaverbrook's *Daily Express*, naturally, is leading the agitation for the dissolution of film combines, particularly Rank's. The *Daily Express* acidly comments: "Wilson proposes to give a blood transfusion to the wrong patient. Surgery is needed."

It is significant that Wilson, as justification for his proposal, repeatedly emphasized to the House of Commons his view that the British film industry can look forward to a long period of prosperity. Moreover, he insisted that "the industry is absolutely necessary to Britain's solving of her long term balance of payments problem."

Clearly, Wilson regards his project as the latest essential ingredient in the pattern of his plan to restrict, insofar as possible, American film screenings here.

Nevertheless, preliminary analysis of Britain's film production potential suggests that even with the new Wilson aid plan, exhibitors inevitably will suffer quota troubles.

However implicit, it is nevertheless a devastating criticism of the Wilson proposal that efficient independent producers, such as Herbert Wilcox, are never without financial support. Wilcox's latest productions are still setting new box-office highs wherever they are played.

\$161,000,000 For 1947

(Continued from page 1)

public today also revised the figures previously released for 1944, 1945 and 1946. Previously, for instance, 1946 profits after taxes had been reported at a record \$190,000,000 but later information caused this figure to be revised upward to \$202,000,000.

The report revealed for the first time that U. S. filmgoers paid a record \$1,472,000,000 in theatre admissions in 1946. This figure was not available when the other 1946 figures were issued last year. Motion picture admissions in 1947 were off considerably, to \$1,380,000,000. The revised figures for 1945 and 1944 are \$1,259,000,000 and \$1,175,000,000 respectively.

Corporate profits before taxes in the industry totaled \$269,000,000 in 1947, compared with revised figures of \$336,000,000 for 1946, \$255,000,000 for 1945, and \$258,000,000 for 1944.

The industry paid \$108,000,000 in Federal and state corporate income and excess profits taxes, compared with \$134,000,000 in 1946, \$151,000,000 in 1945, and \$156,000,000 in 1944.

Net corporate dividend payments of motion picture firms totaled a record \$76,000,000 in 1947, compared with \$65,000,000 in 1946, \$35,000,000 in 1945, and \$33,000,000 in 1944, new high.

Undistributed corporate profits last year were put at \$85,000,000, compared with a record

of \$137,000,000 in 1946, and \$69,030,000 in 1944 and 1945.

The motion picture industry contributed \$1,046,000,000 to the national income last year, compared with \$1,115,000,000 in 1946, \$889,000,000 in 1945, and \$851,000,000 in 1944. Wages and salaries paid by the industry hit a new high of \$683,000,000 in 1947, compared with \$680,000,000 in 1946, \$552,000,000 in 1945, and \$509,000,000 in 1944.

Unincorporated enterprises in the industry had a \$62,000,000 income last year, well below the \$70,000,000 record set in 1946. The 1945 figure was \$57,000,000 and the 1944 figure \$58,000,000.

The industry paid out \$10,000,000 more interest than it took in, a new high. It compares with \$8,000,000 in 1946 and \$6,000,000 in each of the two previous years. Interest fell pretty steadily from 1930 through 1944, but is apparently again on the upswing.

The average number of full-time and part-time employees in the industry in 1947 was 251,000, about 3,000 below the 1946 peak, but above all other previous years. Average annual earnings for each full-time employee was \$3,022, an all-time high. The 1946 figure was \$2,969, while the 1945 figure was \$2,567.

Corporate sales in 1947 were listed at \$1,790,000,000—slightly above the revised 1946 record figure of \$1,779,000,000. The 1946 figure released last year was \$1,804,000,000. The revised figures for 1945 and 1944 were \$1,574,000,000 and \$1,483,000,000.

D. W. Griffith Dies on Coast

(Continued from page 1)

with him at the end. He was born in Kentucky, in 1875.

Funeral services were tentatively set for Tuesday.

Griffith, who was a founder of United Artists, in 1919, with Mary Pickford, Charles Chaplin and Douglas Fairbanks, was the producer of many motion picture milestones, the first outstanding one being "The Birth of a Nation," which, unknown to many, cost only \$100,000, and which grossed upwards of an estimated \$20,000,000. He had been in virtual retirement insofar as motion picture activities were concerned since his last production, "The Struggle," in the early 1930's.

Griffith started as an actor, with the old Meffert Stock Company in Louisville. As David Braytington, he took to the road with John Griffith's Strolling Players. He subsequently acted in pictures, and then became an assistant director. Mary and Jack Pickford, Henry B. Walthall and others appeared in some of the first

pictures which he produced. He is credited with developing the "flash-back," "closeup," "fade-out," "mist-photography" and other production practices, and was one of the first directors to extend a picture beyond the one-reel length.

Following "The Birth of a Nation," some of Griffith's outstanding productions included "Intolerance," "Hearts of the World," "The Love Flower"—his first for UA—"Way Down East," "Dream Street," "Orphans of the Storm," "One Exciting Night," "America," "Broken Blossoms," "Abraham Lincoln," his first all-talking production, and others. He left UA in the mid-1920's, produced two for Paramount and returned to UA after three years. Griffith sold his partnership in United Artists in 1933.

As starmaker, Griffith is credited with developing or discovering Miss Pickford, Dorothy and Lillian Gish, Mae Marsh, Lionel Barrymore, Douglas Fairbanks, Mabel Normand.

Rathvon, RKO

(Continued from page 1)

official comment on it was obtainable at the weekend.

Rathvon has said he will remain as president until the stockholders' meeting, in accordance with Hughes' request, declaring that "I have only the highest regard for Howard Hughes and I am happy to comply with his request to continue for a reasonable period of time."

Rathvon's resignation was the second among the ranking RKO executives since Hughes acquired control of the company two months ago, the

first having been that of Dore Schary, who was RKO production vice-president, and who has since become head of production at M-G-M under Louis B. Mayer.

In addition to holding the presidency of parent company RKO, Rathvon is chairman of the board and president of RKO Radio, and chairman of the board of RKO Theatres, Inc. Before joining the company in the late 1930's, he was associated with Floyd Odum in Atlas Corp., from which organization Hughes purchased control of RKO. When he was with Atlas, as vice-president, Rathvon was active in the 77-B reorganization of RKO under bankruptcy procedure.

Says Allied Units Will Adopt NCA Plan

MINNEAPOLIS, July 25.—Despite the apparent lack of certified local complaints against 20th Century-Fox by North Central Allied's grievance committee, as set up under the NCA-Andy Smith plan, NCA president Ben Berger says that he is completely satisfied with progress made in "cleaning up a bad situation" and predicted the plan would be adopted by every Allied unit as soon as it can be "properly presented." He disclosed that the Louisiana state unit has written him praising the plan and that reaction from the majority of other Allied units is favorable. Berger also announced that he and Smith, 20th-Fox's general sales manager, would attend the Indiana Allied convention tomorrow through Wednesday to present the plan to that group. Some Allied state affiliates have evidenced skepticism over the plan.)

Two Meetings

Berger and Stan Kane, NCA executive director, will outline the trade practice formula at two regional meetings slated for North Dakota. First session will be held at the Gravier Hotel, Fargo, August 4, and the second will be held August 5 at the Greater Northern Hotel, Devils Lake.

Berger said the existence of a grievance board serves as a sharp warning to local branch managers and salesmen that they can no longer indulge in loose talk and loose tricks without facing the risk of being haled before the "police court."

20th's Video

(Continued from page 1)

the full commission.

At the same time, the FCC made public Warner Brothers' application to buy the Hackery radio interests in San Francisco and Los Angeles, including the firm's Los Angeles television station. Warners already has applied for a station in Chicago.

The proposal may give the FCC an opportunity to state its policy on new stations for the "big five" theatre firms. The Commission indicated it would do this in connection with the sale of station KSO in Des Moines to a Paramount subsidiary, but the Paramount firm withdrew from the transaction.

Pickford Victor in LaCava Damage Suit

HOLLYWOOD, July 25.—Superior Judge Elmer Heald, who has had the case under advisement since trial six months ago, ruled today in favor of defendant Mary Pickford in a \$1,653,750 breach of contract suit brought by Gregory LaCava on grounds that she had orally contracted to give him full charge of production of "One Touch of Venus." Court found complainant was entitled to no damages.

House Opening Delayed

St. Louis, July 25.—The scheduled opening of the 1,100-seat Crest Theatre here has been postponed indefinitely following a disagreement between Crest Amusement Co. and IATSE over the employment of a stand-by stagehand.

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IN
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NEWS

64. NO. 18

NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, JULY 27, 1948

TEN CENTS

Says TOA May Aid Ascap in Appeal Action

This If Prompted By A Study of Court's Ruling

That the Theatre Owners of America might come to a courtroom defense of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers if and when the New York Federal Court's decision against the society comes up for appeal was acknowledged as a possibility yesterday by Gael Sullivan, TOA executive secretary.

Sullivan said that a definite decision on this must of course await complete determination of the implications of the court's ruling. He added, however, that the Ascap matter will come up for consideration at the next TOA board meeting and said a "militant stand" might be voted—such as appearing as intervenor in appeal arguments. This would be contingent also on the absence of any new system of paying for music which would be more desirable than dealing with Ascap, he said.

Committee of 3 to Rule RKO Studio

HOLLYWOOD, July 26.—A three-man executive committee consisting of Sid Rogell, Bicknell Lockhart and C. J. Tevlin has been named by N. Peter Rathvon to govern RKO Radio's modified production program pending the meeting of the company's stockholders on August 31, when a new president will be chosen to succeed him.

Rathvon, who resigned as president of RKO on Friday, made the appointments with the approval of Floyd B.

(Continued on page 4)

Richardson, Levy and Davis in Mgr. Posts

William M. Levy has been appointed United Artists branch manager in Cleveland, succeeding Harris Dudelson, resigned, it was announced here yesterday by Paul N. Lazarus, Jr., executive assistant to the president.

Prior to his Cleveland appointment, Levy was foreign division manager for United Artists in Europe and the Near East from 1945 to 1947 when he resigned to take up sales duties in the home office.

Robert R. Richardson has been

(Continued on page 4)

Further Study of Decision by Ascap

Further study of the subject before taking official action on the Federal Court decision declaring Ascap guilty of violating the anti-trust laws was voted yesterday at a meeting of the society's board. Conducting the study will be Ascap directors and counsel. No date was set for the next meeting of the board for consideration of the matter.

The MPEA copyright committee scheduled to meet here today on the decision.

Goldwyn May Guide Others' Key Sales

Samuel Goldwyn Productions is understood to be considering the role of supervisor of first-run sales of other independent producers' top budget films with Howard Hawks' "Red River" as the second mentioned as a possibility for the special handling.

The company already is slated to act for Walter Wanger in such a supervisory capacity for his "Joan of Arc" to be given the key-run treatment afforded Goldwyn's "Best Years of Our Lives." James Mulvey, president of the company, returned to New York from the Coast yesterday but was not available for comment.

The Goldwyn firm is said to feel

(Continued on page 4)

'Ruth' Debut Tops NY 'Babe Ruth Day'

Mayor William O'Dwyer headed a large group of civic dignitaries, screen, stage and radio luminaries and prominent figures in the sports world who attended the world premiere of Allied Artists' "The Babe Ruth Story" at the Astor Theatre here last night. The film will begin its regular performance, extended engagement at the theatre this morning.

Yesterday had been proclaimed "Babe Ruth Day" for New York City by the Mayor, who visited Ruth in Memorial Hospital here on Sunday and received and accepted from him an invitation to attend last night's premiere. Entire proceeds of the premiere will be turned over to the Babe Ruth Foundation.

The Broadway block on which the theatre fronts was roped off last night and filled with expectant thousands, drawn by the celebrities attending and by ads announcing that 200 souvenir

(Continued on page 4)

Dividends Off 11%, To \$23,349,000

WASHINGTON, July 26.—Publicly reported cash dividend payments by motion picture firms during the first six months of 1948 were more than 11 per cent below the payments during the first half of 1947, commerce department figures revealed today.

The 1948 six months total was \$23,349,000, a drop of \$3,048,000 from the comparable 1947 figure of \$26,397,000. Commerce estimates that publicly reported cash dividend payments represents 60 per cent of all dividends.

June payments were reported at \$7,478,000, off slightly from the \$7,959,000 reported last June. Commerce officials said that the reason for the drop was that 20th Century-Fox paid a smaller dividend this June than in June 1947. In only one month this year—February—were payments larger than in 1947, and then only by \$9,000. In most 1948 months, payments have been substantially below 1947 levels.

N. Y. Owners Agree On Promotion Plan

Agreement in principle on a "united front of New York State exhibitors in public relations and other matters" was reached at a weekend meeting in Lake Placid of theatremen of the state, it was reported yesterday by Fred J. Schwartz, president of the Metropolitan Motion Picture Theatres Association, who was host at the session.

The meeting was attended by representatives of Theatre Owners of America; Motion Picture Theatre Owners of New York, Buffalo and the Albany Chapter of TOA. Harry Brandt, president of Independent Theatre Owners Association, said he was unable to attend but reportedly expressed his agreement with the policy. Other meetings are planned.

Jersey May Approve Local Ticket Taxes

WASHINGTON, July 26.—A bill to give all New Jersey municipalities the right to levy theatre admission taxes may be introduced when the state legislature reconvenes in the last week in August, according to Jack Bryson, legislative representative of the Motion Picture Association of America.

Bryson said various Jersey State legislators are consulting on a tax measure now. A bill empowering resort towns to levy such taxes was passed last year and, according to Bryson, the clamor from other municipalities for similar power has been increasing since then.

Johnston Sees Foreign Take Rising In 1949

Says UK Quota Violates Geneva, Havana Pacts

HOLLYWOOD, July 26.—The industry's revenue from the foreign market will hit the lowest point next year and start to rise in autumn, 1949, Eric A. Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association of America, declared today, citing statistics for the past three years.

He said the foreign market yielded \$120,000,000 in 1946, \$90,000,000 in 1947, and will yield an estimated \$70,000,000 in 1948. It is expected, he said, to dip to between \$50,000,000 and \$60,000,000 in 1949.

Pointing out that 1946's \$120,000,000 was included in the industry's total net earnings of \$144,000,000 that year, Johnston said "we've got to get down to the domestic market as soon as we can."

Johnston said the decline in foreign

(Continued on page 4)

Key Houses Sign With Coolers Union

All the large local houses yesterday had reached a tentative agreement with striking Local No. 30, International Union of Operating Engineers, AFL. Only RKO and Loew houses were still affected by the strike of air-conditioning engineers as a conference at the office of Theodore Kheel, the

(Continued on page 4)

Picket Is True to Cause and Himself

His duty was on the picket line, but his heart must have kept on reminding him of the stock he owned. Therefore, they narrate at Loew's, this picket, assigned to Loew's Delancey Theatre, where the air conditioning unit was batted down as a consequence of the current strike, met both impulses by repeating:

"Don't patronize this theatre. But go to Loew's Avenue B or the Apollo where there are no pickets."

Extend Zenith Suit To Include Video

WILMINGTON, July 26.—Ruling of United States District Court Judge Paul Leahy here will permit Zenith Radio Corp. to include television patents in a supplemental complaint against RCA, General Electric and Western Electric in its suit against what its original complaint characterizes as a radio patent "monopoly."

The court action came after months of legal strategic moves on both sides, in which RCA attorneys sought to prove that Zenith was not in the television business at all. Zenith's policy on video has been to make test sets of two models of receivers, then loan them to dealers for demonstration. Zenith officials had previously announced that they would not begin mass production of television sets until an agreement with motion picture companies whereby some policy for a coordinated television showing of first-run films could be made, thus insuring entertainment value of video. Dangers of early obsolescence was also cited by Zenith for its reason in delaying mass video production.

Judge Leahy's new ruling applies to the second of three civil actions filed by Zenith against RCA and the others here. The first suit has been held pending for some time. The latest action deals with television only and was filed by Zenith attorneys to make certain that Zenith would be able to include video circuits in thousands of patents which it contends RCA holds as a monopoly in restraint of trade. The court has ruled that Zenith may consolidate these actions when RCA answers the complaint of the latest case. By virtue of a prior stipulation between attorneys concerned, RCA is to have 30 days in which to move to answer or plead with respect to the supplemental complaint.

Selznick Video Films Start in 60 Days

HOLLYWOOD, July 26.—David O. Selznick Television Corp. will start production of television shorts on an experimental basis within 60 days, with Cecil Barker and Arthur Fellows, both 15-year veterans of the Selznick organization, in charge.

To Air Documentary Show on Hollywood

"The Hollywood Story," one-hour documentary program analyzing the film industry, will be heard over Columbia Broadcasting during the week of September 19. The exact day has not been determined.

The analysis will depict the social, economic and artistic factors which go into the choice and eventual production of a Class "A" picture, and other aspects of the industry.

'Rope' Premiere Aug. 26

Warner's world premiere of Alfred Hitchcock's "Rope," starring James Stewart, has been set at Brandt's Globe Theatre, New York, for Thursday, August 26. "Rope," Transatlantic Pictures' first for WB release, will be nationally distributed as of Sept. 25.

Personal Mention

LEO JONES, manager of the Star Theatre, Upper Sandusky, O., is visiting here.

SYMEUR EICHMAN, Astor Pictures' advertising manager, and Mrs. EICHMAN have returned here from a 15-day honeymoon trip in New England and Canada.

MEYER MISHKIN has resigned from 20th-Fox's New York casting department to join the Hartford Talent Agency as head of its Coast office.

LYNN FARNOL, Samuel Goldwyn Productions' publicity director, returned here yesterday from a Colorado vacation.

DAVID D. HORNE, Film Classics' foreign sales manager, has returned here from a tour of Europe and South America.

Geo. Marshall Heads Coast Charity Group

HOLLYWOOD, July 26.—The industry's permanent Charities Committee has elected George Marshall president, succeeding M. C. Levee, who remains on the board, and has appointed IATSE International representative Roy M. Brewer chairman of the committee's fourth annual United Appeal.

Ballantyne Co. Buys Gardner Projector

OMAHA, July 26.—Ballantyne Co. has purchased the patents, tools, dies, etc. for the manufacture of the projector heretofore manufactured by the L. J. Gardiner Co. of Columbus, Ohio. All of the tools and dies have been transferred to the Ballantyne plants in Omaha and Creighton. Ballantyne intends to make the Gardiner projector under the Royal Soundmaster trademark.

Ballantyne manufactures sound systems, bases, projection arc lamps and rectifiers.

\$85,000 for Far East Convertibility

WASHINGTON, July 26.—The Army has earmarked about \$85,000 to pay U. S. film firms for out-of-pocket expenses in sending films to Japan, Korea and the Ryukyus during the next 12 months.

The funds will be used in a convertibility-guaranty program similar to that now being administered by the Economic Cooperation Administration for Marshall Plan countries.

Beale Is Out

WASHINGTON, July 26.—W. T. M. Beale, current State Department film expert, leaves his post at the end of this week, and as yet no replacement has been chosen. Beale, who is the third official to fill the job this year, will go on vacation, and then report to the Army War College. An expert on British relations, he won wide respect from officials of the Motion Picture Association.

JAMES NASSER, United Artists producer, is here from the Coast.

GEORGE BROWN, Paramount's director of studio advertising-publicity, will arrive here Friday from the Coast for a 10-day stay.

HERB CROOKER, M-G-M publicity manager, is vacationing on his sloop, cruising the waters adjacent to New York.

CHARLES C. MOSKOWITZ, Loew's vice-president and treasurer, will leave the Coast for New York on Thursday.

HUGH OWEN, Paramount's Eastern and Southern sales manager, is touring the South from New York.

WILLIAM F. RODGERS, M-G-M distribution vice-president, returned here from Chicago yesterday.

Recommends Tighter Monopoly Control

WASHINGTON, July 26.—The Federal Trade Commission has again recommended to Congress that it amend the anti-trust laws to prevent one firm from acquiring the physical assets of another where the result is to promote monopoly and eliminate competition.

The laws at present only prevent acquisition of one company's stock by another, but leaves the loophole of acquiring the physical assets. The FTC has been recommending that this loophole be plugged for many years. Legislation has been pending since 1945, but has never reached either the House or Senate floors.

M-G-M Wins Appeal In UK Slander Case

LONDON, July 26.—The British High Court has ruled in favor of M-G-M in its appeal against the judgment which it lost a year ago in the libel and slander suit filed by Mrs. E. Arnot Robertson, former film critic for British Broadcasting Corp. In the course of his judgment, Lord Justice Asquith, one of the three jurists hearing the appeal, said there was "no evidence of malice on M-G-M's part. (Sam) Eckman (M-G-M's representative here) and his officials gave honest evidence. The whole alleged libel was expressions of opinion."

Griffith Tribute Today

HOLLYWOOD, July 26.—All Hollywood studios will observe a three-minute silence at two o'clock tomorrow afternoon in tribute to the memory of David Wark Griffith, who died last Friday morning.

7th Week for 'Waltz'

Paramount's production, "The Emperor Waltz," starring Bing Crosby and Joan Fontaine, will play a seventh week at the New York Music Hall, commencing Thursday. This is the first picture to play the Hall seven weeks in a year, and is one of only 15 to play there that long in the entire 15 year history of the house.

Campaign Book Set For TOA Youth Mo.

A 15-page campaign book has been prepared by M-G-M's Ernie Emerling for the Charles P. Skouras committee on the "Youth Month" drive of the Theatre Owners of America. Copies will be sent to theatres enrolled in the drive, which will be conducted during September throughout the country.

Made up in two colors, red and blue, the campaign book provides various suggestions for exploitation, publicity and lobby and screen advertisement for the drive.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
BING CROSBY **JOAN FONTAINE**
in **"THE EMPEROR WALTZ"**
Color by **TECHNICOLOR**
A Paramount Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

Paramount presents
JEAN ARTHUR
MARLENE DIETRICH
JOHN LUND
in **"A FOREIGN AFFAIR"**
in Person **JO STAFFORD**
GEORGE KAYE - THE LANE BROTHERS
Extra **SAM DONAHUE**
and His Orchestra
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE MIDNIGHT LEASE NIGHTLY

JOHN FORD'S MASTERPIECE
"FORT APACHE"
IN PERSON **LENA HORNE**
Special! **PAUL WINCHELL**
Extra! **SKINNAY ENNIS**
and his ORCH.
COOL **CAPITOL** B'way & 51st St.

Paramount Presents
RAY MILLAND
ANN TODD
GERALDINE FITZGERALD
in **"So Evil My Love"**
in HAL WALLIS' production
SCIENTIFICALLY AIR CONDITIONED
RIVOLI
DOORS OPEN 9:30 A.M. B'way & 49th Street

ROY DEL RUTH'S **"THE BABE RUTH STORY"**
Starring **WILLIAM CLAIRE**
BENDIX-TREVOR
An Allied Artists Production
CHARLES BICKFORD
COOL **ASTOR** B'WAY AT 45TH ST. Cont Performances*Pop Prices

LOIS BUTLER in MICKEY
IN CINECOLOR
Brandt's Cool
New **GOTHAM** B'way at 47th St.
LOIS BUTLER will appear on stage today at 3:27, 7:45, 9:54

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"RED RIVER"
is *Terrific!*

“Packs a terrific boxoffice wallop.
One of the best of the
year. By all means buy it!”

—FILM DAILY

Released thru **UA**

Johnston, Foreign Market

(Continued from page 1)

revenues is foremost among the three reasons for the economy policy instituted in Hollywood production, the second being "dollar hamburger and dollar butter," and the third, "other forms of entertainment, such as night baseball and dog racing." He said television has not yet exerted box-office influence except in the biggest cities.

Assailing the British quota as "a violation of the spirit and probably the letter of the Geneva and Havana agreements signed by the British," he said he expects the State Department to make formal protest and believes the delay in doing so is due to preoccupation with the Russian situation.

He attacked the quota as doomed to force British producers into a quantity instead of quality basis and, declaring "you can't legislate people into theatres," forecast a situation in which the British producer will find a government official "looking over his

shoulder" and telling him what kind of pictures to make and what to put in them, in an effort to recoup the government's investment in production.

Johnston revised his estimate, made here last March, that the American industry would realize five to seven millions of dollars this year from exhibition of British films in this country, saying he now expects amount to be less than one million and added, in response to questioning, that he does not think the industry has or will attempt retaliatory measures, and he would oppose such policy.

He said the current lag in Hollywood production and employment will continue until fall, because "Hollywood companies are having trouble," but should begin improving then.

Motion Picture Industry Council, which he addressed last week, is "making progress, but still is in an informal state," he said.

12 Foreign Films From Distinguished

Twelve new foreign films are scheduled for distribution in the United States in the coming year by Distinguished Films, the list embracing nine French productions, one Hungarian, one Italian and one British.

Product includes the following films: "Dangerous," French, due in February, and described as the key production; "Four Steps in the Clouds," Italian; "An Only Love,"

French, September; "Passionate Spring," Hungarian, October; "Wrath of God," French, October; "Hoboes in Paradise," French, December; "Vautrin," French, January; "The Wicked Duchess," French, March; "Quiet Weekend," British, May; "Fury in the Desert," French, June; "Confessions of a Rogue," French; "Passionelle," French, and "Lysistrata," in German, made in Austria.

You Owe it to Yourself
AND YOUR COMMUNITY TO
SEE and SHOW...

**"LETTER
TO A
REBEL"**

How the American heritage
of freedom and enterprise
works in your own
community.

"The American story of
freedom, abundance and
opportunity is the great-
est drama in the world
today. It is a story that
should never be taken for
granted. That is why the
Motion Picture Associa-
tion commends this pic-
ture to you."

— ERIC JOHNSTON

**THIS IS
AMERICA**

Produced by RKO Pathe

See your nearest RKO Radio Exchange

Building Continues In Northern Cal.

SAN FRANCISCO, July 26.—Northern California is the locale for the construction of additional new theatres, including drive-ins, and the re-equipping and remodeling of many old ones.

T. and D., Jr. Enterprises has opened the El Rey at Chico, the second house in that city. Bob Coffman has been appointed manager, moving over from the Redding. D. Dickerman, president of Highland Theatre Co., announced that construction has begun on a new \$180,000 drive-in at Highland, to be completed in November.

Mason Shaw, formerly operator of two theatres in Texas, is building a theatre at Saratoga for \$70,000. The house will seat 475. Opening of the new Turlock Theatre was held last week with George Atton supervising management of that house and the Fox Theatre. Salvador Alvarey and Phillipe Serna are building a \$70,000 theatre in Monterey. Bert Kennerson is manager of the new Gay Theatre, San Jose, built at a cost of \$55,000.

Five Field Changes Listed by Rodgers

Five more promotions in the M-G-M field sales and branch personnel were announced here yesterday by William F. Rodgers, distribution vice-president, as follows:

John W. Coyne, former office manager at San Francisco, to salesman in the same territory; Melvin Turner, head booker at Minneapolis, to salesman, same branch; Clarence Keim, head booker at Chicago, to salesman, same office; Raymond Haberland, booker at Minneapolis to head booker, same branch; Jesse H. Owens, booker at Chicago, to chief booker, same exchange.

Key Houses Sign

(Continued from page 1)

mayor's labor conciliator, failed to produce a complete settlement.

Beyond announcing that a full settlement had not been reached at the meeting, Kheel refused to comment.

Officials of RKO and Loew reported that the strike had not affected business noticeably, although a union spokesman said that many persons had demanded their money back when they learned that air-conditioning systems were not operating. The circuits were using every available substitute means of cooling their theatres.

The union is asking for a 15 per cent wage boost, against the circuit's offer of 10 per cent.

Richardson, et al

(Continued from page 1)

named Eagle-Lion's Cleveland branch manager, replacing Mark Goldman, who has resigned, it was announced by William J. Heineman, distribution vice-president.

Richardson, who entered the industry 10 years ago, has served in the Cleveland territory since that time for RKO Radio, where he held various sales posts.

Merritt Davis has been appointed branch manager of Republic's Atlanta branch and will assume his post on Monday. Davis succeeds James E. Hobbs, who has resigned.

500 Will Pass on Video Film Pact

A standard exhibition contract embodying a series of recommendations for some 500 television stations, film producers, distributors, advertising agencies and others to pass on is being mailed out by the National Television Film Council, it is announced by Melvin L. Gold, NTFC chairman.

NTFC attorney Seymour Kiser has explained that the various practices and procedures covered in the contract, emphasizing the fact that the new agreement would in no way attempt to negotiate for the television station or the film distributor. He pointed out that the contract's function would be to standardize the methods of doing business, the physical handling of each print, and to clearly define the obligations of the distributor and the telecaster in the matter of exhibiting films on television.

Committee of 3

(Continued from page 1)

Odium, chairman of the Radio-Keith-Orpheum board; Ned Depinet, executive vice-president, and Howard Hughes, who holds the controlling interest in the company.

Rogell is the studio's executive producer, while Lockhart and Tevlin are members of the Hughes organization.

Rathvon said that Depinet will continue as vice-chairman of the board and executive vice-president in charge of all company operations out of New York. He asserted that until the stockholders meet he will function with the board's approval primarily in an advisory capacity.

'Ruth' Premiere

(Continued from page 1)

gifts would be distributed among spectators. The event was covered by television station WPIX, radio station WNYC, by CBS, newsreels and the Armed Forces Radio and Press Services.

Steve Broidy, Allied Artists president, was presented with an award of merit by *Parents Magazine* in recognition of the Babe Ruth production.

Goldwyn May Guide

(Continued from page 1)

that through its experience in handling "Best Years" which brought phenomenal rentals (taking up to 65 per cent of the theatre gross in some deals) it is equipped to represent other producers of high-budget product.

Video Okays Rise


WASHINGTON, July 26.—As of June 30, 1948, 109 television stations were authorized in the U. S., an increase of 43 over the number authorized at the end of June, 1947, according to the Federal Communications Commission. An additional 124 experimental video stations had been okayed, compared with 81 a year earlier. Authorizations were also outstanding for 1,020 FM stations and 2,034 standard broadcast stations. The comparable figures for June 30, 1947 were 918 and 1,795.

Sunday Film Fee Cut


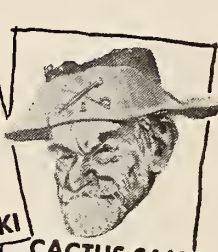
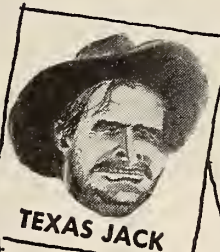
PITTSFIELD, Mass., July 26.—Effective August 1, the city fee for Sunday shows will be cut about 25 per cent.



BOOM!



THAT BIG BOOM IN THE
MIDWEST IS "THE DUDE'S"
100 THEATRE DAY & DATE
BLOW-OFF IN THE IOWA
AND NEBRASKA AREAS!



ALLIED ARTISTS presents

THE DUDE GOES WEST

A KING BROS. PRODUCTION

Starring

EDDIE ALBERT • GALE STORM

with JAMES GLEASON • BINNIE BARNES • GILBERT ROLAND • BARTON MACLANE

Produced by MAURICE and FRANK KING • Directed by KURT NEUMANN
Original Screenplay by MARY LOOS and RICHARD SALE • Director of Photography, KARL STRUSS, A. S. C.

"Uproariously
funny!" says
LOUELLA PARSONS
in Cosmopolitan

"Packed with
laughs" says
JIMMY FIDLER
on 2 Top Networks

LOVE
Betrayed them!

POWER
Destroyed them!

PRODUCING ARTISTS, INC.
PRESENTS

ZACHARY SCOTT ★ LOUIS HAYWARD
DIANA LYNN ★ SYDNEY GREENSTREET
LUCILLE BREMER ★ MARTHA VICKERS

RUTHLESS

with Dennis Hoey • Edith Barrett • Raymond Burr
Produced by ARTHUR S. LYONS • Directed by EDGAR G. ULMER

Screenplay by S. K. Lauren and Gordon Kohn • Based on a novel "Prelude to Night" by Dayton Stoddard
An EAGLE LION FILMS Release



"A solid entry! Names that can be relied on for steady draw!"
—Daily Variety

"Top drawer production . . . good collection of names to provide audience lure!"
—Film Daily

"Well produced, directed and played!"
—Jimmie Fidler

"Engrossing, vibrant and convincing!"
—Boxoffice

"Boxoffice in its cast names . . . exhibitor should be able to capitalize with ease in exploiting!"
—Motion Picture Daily

"Should please drama-hungry audiences and especially the women!"
—Exhibitor

"Scott gives top-notch performance . . . may well be remembered at the next Academy Awards time!"
—Liberty Magazine

"First-rate down the line!"
—Hollywood Reporter

"Fascinating drama . . . unusual story. Gallery of stars!"
—Motion Picture Herald

"Fine performances, strong cast . . . good entertainment!"
—Showmen's Trade Review

"Arresting drama . . . compelling!"
—Seventeen

**ALL REVIEWS
TELL STORY OF
BOX-OFFICE POWER!**

Another
hit for the
**BILL HEINEMAN
DRIVE!**



MOTION PICTURE DAILY



64. NO. 19 NEW YORK, U.S.A., WEDNESDAY, JULY 28, 1948 TEN CENTS

Bids Canceling Adjustments To Exhibitors

Distributors Rule Them Out As Legal Safeguard

Exhibitor applications for adjustments of rental terms where product falls below expectations at the box-office are decreasing in direct proportion to the increase of competitive bidding and negotiation of run, according to home office sales executives.

Selling, generally, is gradually becoming slower and more cautious as the distributors are guarding against legal entanglements, and are frankly out for maximum revenue in keeping with the peak production costs and foreign market losses, the reports indicate.

Aside from clearance reductions and the more prominent of changes that stemmed directly from the industry anti-trust suit, the film companies are

(Continued on page 4)

Heat Hurting N.Y. 1st Runs

Again Summer heat is affecting business at several Broadway first-runs and this week the rising mercury is not only outside, but in. "Several hundred" refunds were reported at the State where an engineers' strike has halted the air conditioning. The Capitol and Criterion are similarly without cooling systems. To what extent overall business was impaired could hardly be determined, it was said.

"The Babe Ruth Story" got off to a big start at the Astor yesterday. "Key Largo" with Count Basie and Billie Holiday is still riding high at

(Continued on page 4)

Insist Hollywood Hearings to Resume

WASHINGTON, July 27.—Members of the House Committee on Un-American Activities, back for the special session, are sticking to the story that the Hollywood hearings will resume here late this summer.

One high-ranking member of the committee said that a formal announce-

(Continued on page 4)

Schine Named In Trust Suit

CHICAGO, July 27.—Continuing in the succession of film anti-trust suits is a new one filed today by Emerson W. Long, Cadiz, Ohio, theatre operator, against the Schine circuit for treble damages of \$345,000 claimed by him for the period from Jan. 1, 1935, to Jan. 1, 1941. The suit involves Long's operation of the Memorial Theatre, Mount Vernon, Ohio, during that period.

Complaint alleges that because of exertion of buying power by Schine, the Memorial Theatre was prevented from licensing suitable first and second run product. It is also charged that Schine reopened a closed house, the Lyric, when Long began operation of

(Continued on page 4)

U. S. Film Quality Better: Steinhardt

Quality of American films released in Czechoslovakia in the past two years has shown sharp improvement, Laurence A. Steinhardt, U. S. Ambassador to that country declared here yesterday at a luncheon given him by company and foreign department heads at the Harvard Club. The Ambassador, who was introduced by Francis S. Harmon, Motion Picture Export Association vice-president, declared that Hollywood must continue to send over its best pictures if it would retain the high degree of popularity now enjoyed in that country.

Present at the luncheon were: Barney Balaban, Norton V. Ritchey, William Satori, Joseph A. McConville, Abe Schneider, Leo Samuels, James Mulvey and other film leaders.

Conciliation Vital, Smith Tells Indiana ATOI Meet

Floods Hamper Some Kansas Operations

KANSAS CITY, JULY 27.—Further rains have aggravated the flood crisis in parts of Southeastern Kansas, while waters continue to subside elsewhere in previously flooded districts.

The Plaza of the Dickinson circuit in Burlington, Kansas, has reopened after being closed a week. Water had been above the stage. Seats were removed when the flood threatened, and restored when the waters receded. Seats were removed from the

(Continued on page 4)

See Ascap Decree By End of August

Work will be started soon by Ascap and ITOA counsel on the preparation of a decree to conform with the findings of fact made by Federal Judge Vincent L. Leibell in handing down his decision holding the society in violation of U. S. anti-trust statutes. The decree is expected to be ready for presentation to the court for its approval by the end of August.

MPAA Begins Series Of Parleys on Ascap

First Motion Picture Association of America meeting on the New York Federal Court's decision enjoining Ascap was held here yesterday. The meeting group, the MPAA's copyright

Hollywood, July 27.—The Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners, which had filed an *amicus curiae* brief supporting the position of the plaintiffs in the New York Ascap case will participate similarly in any appeal from Federal Judge Vincent L. Leibell's recent decision, PCCITO's trustees announced today.

committee, was forced to limit itself to merely exploratory discussions. It was explained that until the court order is handed down, probably late next month, no definitive action could be taken.

Edwin Kilroe, 20th Century-Fox, is chairman of the committee, which includes five other executives.

UK Exhibitors Wary About Finance Plan

See Wilson Forced Into State Distribution Next

LONDON, July 27.—Exhibitors here share the misgivings expressed in political and financial circles concerning President of the Board of Trade Harold Wilson's \$20,000,000 government Film Finance Corp.

They remember Wilson's naive, much derided declaration at the Exhibitors' Association dinner to Eric Johnston last spring that what they must show in their theatres is "more documentaries."

They distrust the suggestion that the films they must show will be selected by a still-to-be-announced "committee."

They maintain, despite the promised flow of films from the government's beneficence, that they will not

(Continued on page 4)

19 Films in 'U' Backlog

Universal Pictures has the largest backlog of completed productions in its history, shooting schedules on 19 top productions having been finished, J. Cheever Cowdin, board chairman, and N. J. Blumberg, president, announced yesterday as the company prepared to shut down its Coast studio on Friday for a five-week consolidated vacation period. The company's annual production schedule calls for 24 pictures.

The management had planned the vacation shutdown many months ago and had arranged its production schedule so as to complete shooting

(Continued on page 4)

Truman Telecast on Paramount's Screen

Evidently determined to establish itself as top television theatre among Broadway showhouses, the Paramount yesterday gave an unexpected full-screen telecast of President Truman's address before Congress, running about 25 minutes and fitting in smoothly at the end of the newsreel.

Yesterday's special was adequately

(Continued on page 4)

Personal Mention

STEVE BROIDY, president of Monogram-Aligned Artists, and **LOUIS F. LIFTON**, director of advertising-publicity, will leave New York for the Coast tomorrow.

SAMUEL SCHNEIDER, Warner vice-president; **W. STEWARD McDONALD**, vice-president of Warner Theatres, and their wives, returned to New York yesterday from England aboard the *S. S. Queen Mary*.

MARIA VINCENZA TROTTA, daughter of **VINCENT TROTTA**, National Screen art director, has become engaged to **HAROLD DOUGLAS HALL** of Rossville, Ga.

WILLIAM A. SCULLY, Universal-International distribution vice-president, will return here tomorrow from England aboard the *S. S. America*.

JULES LAPIDUS, Warner Eastern and Canadian sales manager, will return here over the weekend from Buffalo and Cleveland.

ERIC A. JOHNSTON, Motion Picture Association of America president, flew from Hollywood to Spokane yesterday.

RUDOLPH WEISS, Warner real estate department chief, is in Springfield, O., from New York.

SIDNEY KULICK of Bell Pictures has been visiting Albany from New York.

Reach No Accord in Strike of 'Coolers'

The strike of Local No. 30, International Union of Operating Engineers, AFL, against Loew and RKO houses in the New York Metropolitan area was no nearer to a settlement yesterday as the circuits held firm in their refusal to accede to the union's demand for a 15 per cent wage hike. The air-conditioning men have been offered a 10 per cent raise.

Schine Promotes Hart and Slither

ALBANY, N. Y., July 27.—Lou Hart has been promoted by the Schine circuit from district manager at Gloversville to Northern New York zone manager at Watertown, to succeed Harold Slither who has been advanced to zone manager at Lexington, Ky.

Seech, Fire Victim

SAN FRANCISCO, July 27.—Funeral services will be held at Halsted's Funeral Parlor here tomorrow for George Robert Seech, 62, RKO Radio salesman for 27 years, who died Monday afternoon at St. Luke's Hospital here from burns sustained while he was attempting to repair an automobile. Survivors include a son, a daughter, four sisters and two brothers.

Tradewise . . .

By **SHERWIN KANE**

NEW YORK independent exhibitors won a legal "victory" over the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers last week.

It remains to be seen how much the "victory" will cost them.

The New York Federal District Court found Ascap's method of licensing the performing rights of its music to theatres to be in violation of the anti-trust laws and enjoined the Society from further issuing blanket music licenses, among other things.

The court suggested as an alternative to the present method of licensing that producers acquire the performing rights to the music in their pictures at the same time that synchronization, or recording, rights are obtained.

That, in effect, is what exhibitor sponsors and supporters of the Lewis Bill in the last session of Congress wanted.

Many exhibitors and this column saw nothing more in the Lewis Bill than an instrument by which the Ascap music tax could be transformed into a hidden tax. As a hidden tax, added to film rental, as it most certainly would be, the exhibitor could be required to pay more for the music in the films he licensed than he paid to Ascap. His only balm would be that he wouldn't know about it when he did it.

The New York court's Ascap decision promises to bring about the same result.

Allied States, sponsor of the Lewis Bill, contends that the exhibitor need not pay more, and possibly might pay less, for music performing rights obtained from the producer rather than from Ascap.

The New York court found that exhibitors not only did negotiate with Ascap in 1933 and 1934, as the trade knows, but that the result of the negotiations was a "schedule of rates which were very reasonable."

It was on this ground and in the absence of any showing by the New York exhibitor plaintiffs that their business had been injured by the Ascap levy, that the New York court denied damages to the plaintiffs against Ascap.

The court observed that "The exhibitor got something of value (from Ascap) and received what he paid for."

That means, of course, that if the exhibitor is to continue getting that "something of value," i.e., music performing rights, he will continue paying for it, whether he pays Ascap, the producers or the individual copyright owners.

How much the exhibitor will pay for that "something of value" in the future remains to be seen.

The court left the way open for Ascap to continue licensing theatres on a per-piece basis. No exhibitor ever has applied to Ascap for a per-piece license, even though the Society is required by its consent decree with the Government to make such licenses available upon request.

The reasons are obvious. The time and cost involved in obtaining a license for each piece of music in every film played by a theatre, for every exhibition of the picture in that theatre, eliminate the method from all practical considerations. Unless Ascap cooperates by devising a more practicable and economical per-piece licensing system than it has offered up to now.

If the exhibitor were to attempt to clear the rights through the individual copyright owners, assuming Ascap gets out of the theatre licensing field completely, he would find the task even more impossible than attempting to do it through Ascap.

The producer may find some of the same difficulties in attempting to acquire the performing rights himself because, if it is illegal for Ascap to issue blanket licenses then it is reasonable to assume that it will be equally illegal for any other agency which might supplant Ascap to do so. Thus, the producer would be put to increased expense in negotiating with individual copyright owners, expense which would be reflected ultimately in film rentals.

In the final analysis, of course, it was not the exhibitors who defeated Ascap in the New York case. Ascap, by its greed or arrogance in demanding the exorbitant fees of exhibitors it did last August, defeated itself. The decision makes that clear.

Ascap had a similar experience in its 1941 fight with the broadcasters. Apparently, it learned nothing from that experience.

Newsreel Parade

A REPORT from Gen. Clay as well as the Third Party convention mark current newsreel highlights. Other items include people in the news, a plane crash and sports. The confession of Robert Daniels, youthful killer, is claimed as an exclusive by Movietone News. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 60.—Party nominates Wallace. Gen. Clay reports on crisis in Berlin. Gov. Dewey holds conference on foreign affairs. Giant 180-passenger plane joins U. S. navy. Klu Klux Klan initiates new members. Exclusive confession of Robert Daniels.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 294.—Progressives name Wallace for President. Report by Gen. Clay. Klu Klux Klan. Refugees from Soviet terror flee to the U. S. Greatest airship in first flight. U. S. Olympic team hailed in London.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 97.—1948 Olympiad: London host to top-flight athletes. Weekend at Pawling; Gov. Dewey keeps pace with world issues. Minneapolis stages water spectacle. Wallace Party states policy.

UNIVERSAL NEWS, No. 164.—Gen. Clay sees no war despite blockade of Berlin. Third Party nominates Wallace. Abbott and Costello meet radio program contest winners. War-mutilated kids meet the Pope. Refugees' ship arrives in Boston. New 180-passenger plane.

WARNER PATHE NEWS, No. 99.—Ku Klux Klan rears its head again. Third party convention. Air news: B-25 crashes; Navy giant; jets on parade. People in the news: General Clay; Andre Marie. Refugees from Red-dominated countries. Dewey and Eisenhower discuss Berlin crisis. Minneapolis Aquatennial.

Albany Paper Cites Smakwitz Promotion

ALBANY, N. Y., July 27.—The Albany *Knickerbocker News* has greeted with editorial praise the promotion of Charles A. Smakwitz from assistant to zone manager of Warner Theatres here, succeeding C. J. Latta who will head Warner theatre operations in England.

Smakwitz "has a well-deserved reputation in Albany for being a tireless worker," the editorial said. "He is a dynamo of energy in his business as a theatre man and in all public-spirited movements. During the war he was the spark in many events in behalf of various war bond drives."

Mason Is Signed By Enterprise

HOLLYWOOD, July 27.—James Mason has been signed by Enterprise Studios for his first production in America, "Wild Calendar." M-G-M will distribute. The British actor, No. 1 in the *Motion Picture Herald-Fame* British "Money Making Stars" poll for four years (1944-47), will check in at the Enterprise lot this week.

The deal was made by Charles Einfield, Enterprise president, and David Loew, board chairman.

Lufkin Enters Video

WASHINGTON, July 27.—Lufkin Amusement Co. of Beaumont, Texas, which last week applied for a television station, is half owner of East Texas Theatres, it is learned.

M-G-M DIDN'T WRITE THIS AD!

(The reports below on "Easter Parade" come from Variety, July 21st issue)

"PARADE WHAM!" Indianapolis

"PARADE MIGHTY!" Boston

"PARADE SOCK!" Philadelphia

"PARADE HOTTER THAN HOT!" St. Louis

"PARADE STANDOUT!" San Francisco

"PARADE STOUT!" Detroit

"PARADE GIANT!" Kansas City

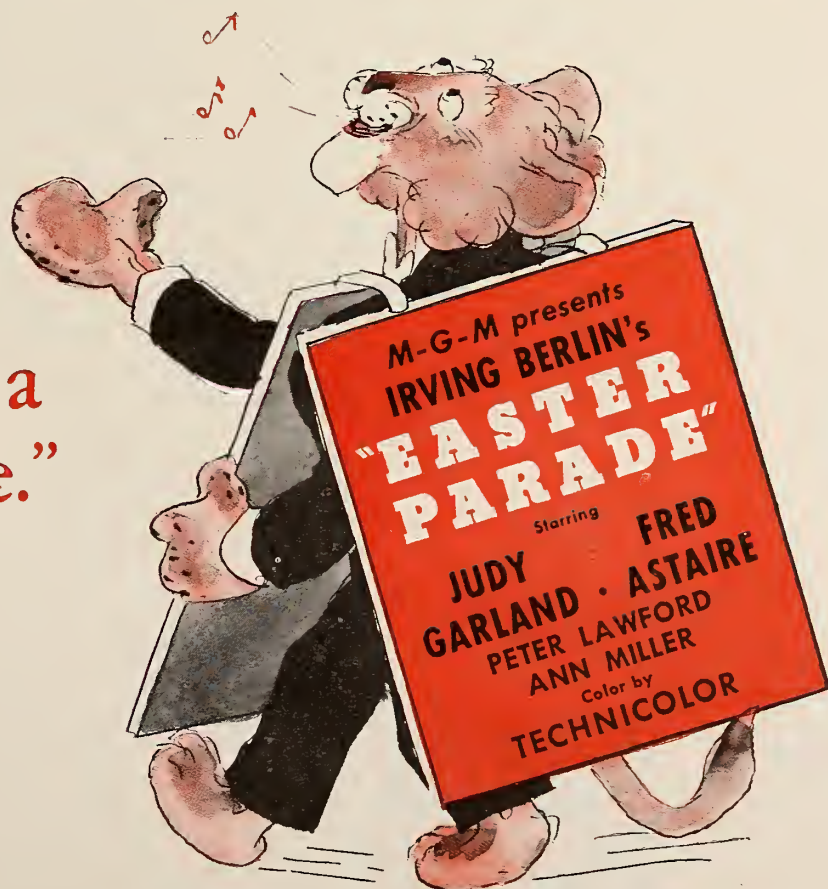
"PARADE BIG COIN!" New York

"PARADE TERRIFIC!" Louisville

"PARADE SOCKEROO!" Wash., D. C.

"PARADE TOPPER!" Providence

*"I love a
parade."*



'Ruth' Starts Off at Record Astor Pace

"The Babe Ruth Story" is heading for about \$70,000 in its first week at the Astor, according to the management. If this gross develops, it will top the \$66,965 rolled up by "The Kid from Brooklyn" which holds the latter-day record for an opening week at the house.

The Danny Kaye film opened during an Easter Week at \$1.40 up to five P.M., compared with 95 cents to the same hour for "Babe Ruth." Top for the Ruth film is \$1.50, but, as an experiment, the Astor will go to \$1.80 from seven to ten P.M. Saturday night. If this policy clicks, it will be maintained. If not, prices will return to \$1.50.

New York Grosses

(Continued from page 1)

the Strand with a second week's gross estimated at \$83,000. The house is charging \$1.75, up from \$1.50, on Saturdays and Sundays.

"The Emperor Waltz" and a stage presentation at the Music Hall should provide an attractive \$123,000 in its sixth week. The show holds for a seventh, making an exceptionally long run for this time of the year. "Easter Parade" lost ground in its fourth week at the State, estimated \$41,000; it is still good, however. "Deep Water" is slow in its opening week at the Globe, at \$14,000. "Street With No Name" with Cab Calloway and an ice show at the Roxy should get a lofty \$100,000 in a second week.

Less impressive figures come from other spots: Paramount, "A Foreign Affair," Jo Stafford on stage, \$60,000 (but fair enough for a fourth week); Gotham, "Mickey," second week (six days), \$7,400, mediocre; Mayfair, "Time of Your Life," ninth week, \$10,000, fair; Victoria, "Raw Deal," third week, \$10,000, passable; Criterion, "Canon City," third week, \$12,000, room for improvement; Capitol, "Fort Apache," Lena Horne on stage, fifth week, \$5,000, good enough as the run nears its end.

RKO J-P Appeal

CHICAGO, July 27.—RKO, represented by attorney Miles Seeley, today filed an appeal in U. S. District Court in opposition to Judge Michael Igoe's recent refusal to grant exemption of contempt charges in the recent Jackson Park hearing. Seeley's grounds were based on arguments that the RKO Palace and Grand theatres are separate corporations. Hearings on the anti-trust suit case against the majors here have been extended to September 10 in U. S. District Court. Plaintiff's attorney is Abe Brussels.

UK Exhibitors

(Continued from page 1)

be able to meet the 45 per cent quota.

Exhibitors, too, are worried about the composition of that "committee." To the very last minute before his declaration in the House of Commons concerning the film financing plan, Wilson contemplated appointing Lord Portal as chairman of his Film Finance Corp. Lord Portal is chiefly remembered in the trade as one of J. Arthur Rank's financial associates in his first film operations.

Discussion currently revolves around the question as to who will get the public's money. Wilson's plan is that the funds will be made available to distribution companies which in turn will finance producers. Informed persons believe this means that a distributor who has studio space available will give security to the Film Finance Corp. for an advance which it will pay over to the producers. The distributor's security would consist of such unpledged assets as he possessed plus the film to be made.

A select list of distributors is in course of preparation and applicant producers will be permitted to deal only with the chosen few. Also, so that the risk may be spread, a producer will receive only a part of the required financing from the corporation. The distributor will be called upon to pay the balance.

Hollywood Hearings

(Continued from page 1)

ment will be made shortly, possibly next week if committee chairman Thomas returns here by then.

Industry officials point out that similar forecasts of resumption of the hearings have been made before, and have not panned out.

The committee member cited above said that the rest of the 19 "unfriendly film witnesses" would be called to testify and "probably a good many others." He declared that present plans are to hold brief hearings on possible Communist affiliations of Dr. Edward Condon, head of the U. S. Bureau of Standards, and then swing into the second phase of the Hollywood probe.

Floods Hamper

(Continued from page 1)

Kaw at Marion, also a Dickinson house, but waters did not rise into the theatre, and the seats were reset after a day's closing.

There is no report of any theatre missing out on prints, although Exhibitors Film Delivery has made wide detours to reach some towns. A boatman was sent from the Osa at Osawatomie over flooded fields to meet a print truck from Paola.

Conciliation

(Continued from page 1)

the meeting. There was no general meeting yesterday, but the board met last night and voted to muster 50 ATOI delegates to attend national Allied's convention in New Orleans, Nov. 30 to Dec. 2. First general session was held tonight, when William Ainsworth, head of the national organization, as well as Smith and Richey, was heard. The sessions will close tomorrow night with a banquet. On the dais besides Smith, Richey and Ainsworth will be Ben Berger, president of North Central Allied; Dave Palfreyman of the Motion Picture Association of America; Pete Wood, Ohio exhibitor leader, and Trueman Rembusch, ATOI president. In explaining the NCA-Berger-Smith Minneapolis conciliation plan, Smith asserted, that "the failure of conciliation and mediation plans in the past has been due to the fact that they were conceived on a national basis." He said the Minneapolis plan "is promised on a local-level basis," adding that it is founded on "the good faith of both exhibitor and distributor and has no direct relationship to national viewpoints one way or another."

Smith appealed to all "to be considerate of each others' problems sincerely and honestly." He held that "liberation from court attacks and other agitation could enhance the value and purpose of the screen," saying that "we have got to find a peaceful, practical and fair method by which every individual can seek to establish his right to a fair and honest existence in our business."

Schine Named

(Continued from page 1)

the Memorial, and later attempted to secure the lease on the Memorial away from Long for the purpose of closing the theatre. The complaint further alleges that efforts to stifle competition in Mount Vernon were all part of a scheme by Schine to monopolize exhibition in all towns in which Schine operated.

The suit was filed in Federal District Court at Columbus. Plaintiff's attorneys are Birney Pettay of Cadiz, and Seymour Simon, Chicago. Prior to the war, Simon, who was special assistant to the U. S. Attorney General, participated in the Federal Government's prosecution of the Schine circuit.

'U' Backlog

(Continued from page 1)

on the 19 pictures by August 1, with editing of half a dozen of these to be continued during the vacation period, Cowdin and Blumberg stated.

They emphasized that "these plans have nothing to do with British film quota restrictions. The shutdown was planned months before the quota was enacted." Referring to a statement attributed to Eric Johnston, head of the Motion Picture Producers Association, linking the shutdown with the British move to limit exhibition of American films, they said that Johnston was either misquoted or misinformed.

It was recalled in trade circles that Universal's decision to shut down its studio in August was made at the time that the first threats were heard of an August strike by the Screen Actors Guild.

Screen Actors Start Vote on 'Open Shop'

HOLLYWOOD, July 27.—Screen Actors Guild has mailed notifications to its entire membership for voting in an NLRB election, with a deadline of August 16, to determine whether a majority favor the retention of an open shop. SAG's notification describes the election as the "most important in SAG history."

Adjustments Out

(Continued from page 1)

said to be exerting every effort to avert theatremen's charges of discrimination in licensing the small independent and a similarly-situated circuit or buying-combine house. The distributors are carefully seeing to it that the independent gets the product at the same price despite the buying power of the group-theatre licensee.

As for adjustments, the companies feel that they must rule them out in any instance of bidding or else place themselves vulnerable to other attacks. They take the position that the exhibitor who obtains product by bidding must be held to the terms of the agreement lest his competitor who lost out on the bidding charge collusion, or favoring an old customer. The loser could charge that the top bidder actually never intended the terms offered in that there was knowledge beforehand that they would be reduced after the run of the picture.

Truman Telecast

(Continued from page 1)

clear in picture and flawless in sound, making an impressive news scoop, even scoring over radio and newspapers. Apparent over-lighting in profile shots proved the only shortcoming, technically.

Excepting children and a few others, the audience gave the President its full attention. There were no signs of enthusiastic approval, or any degree of disapproval. The only before-hand knowledge the customers had of the telecast was imparted by a "barker" at the box-office.



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64. NO. 20

NEW YORK, U. S. A., THURSDAY, JULY 29, 1948

TEN CENTS

Mediation Plan Is Up to Each TOA Affiliate

Organization Will Not Act Nationally: Coyne

While the Theatre Owners of America has steadfastly sought to promote the mediation of distributor-exhibitor differences, according to Robert W. Coyne, the organization has no immediate plans to recommend the new 20th Century-Fox conciliation system nationally. Instead TOA units around the country will determine the merits of the plan for each local area.

The TOA policy conforms with the practice to be followed by 20th-Fox on the NCA-Berger-Smith Minneapolis plan for local adoption by exhibitors. In explaining the plan to the Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana convention at French Lick Tuesday night, 20th-Fox general sales manager A. W. Smith, Jr., said, "The failure of

(Continued on page 6)

Extra Loop Time to Be Sought for 'Ruth'

CHICAGO, July 28.—More Loop playing time for Allied Artists' "The Babe Ruth Story" will shortly be asked of Judge Michael Igoe in U. S. District Court here by the company's New York attorneys, it is understood. The film opens at the B. and K. State Lake on September 1.

Although Allied Artists and Monogram, which is distributing the film, are non-defendants in the Jackson Park decree, the film nevertheless is

(Continued on page 6)

Regular Scales If Goldwyn Gets 'Joan'

Walter Wanger's "Joan of Arc" and Howard Hawks' "Red River" will be sold at regular admission prices in the event Samuel Goldwyn represents the producers in the sale of those pictures, James Mulvey, president of Goldwyn Pictures, declared here yesterday. Mulvey is presently negotiating deals for both.

Exceptions to this would be the roadshowing of "Arc" in four-wall deals, where the distributor actually leases the theatre for the exhibition

(Continued on page 6)

ATOI Defers Action on Smith-Berger Peace Plan

FRENCH LICK, Ind., July 28.—Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana, in convention here, adopted a motion to give further study to the plan of conciliation of local grievances developed by A. W. Smith, Jr., 20th Century-Fox general sales manager, and Bennie Berger, head of North Central Allied. No action will be taken on the plan until the next ATOI meeting.

The convention heard both Smith and Berger on the conciliation plan, the latter reporting that no complaints had been filed since promulgation of the plan. Berger likened the Minneapolis grievance committee to a crime prevention force rather than a board set up to mete out punishment to offenders.

Smith, whose remarks on the plan were reported yesterday, received and answered all general complaints against his company's policy in Indiana. It was felt that the resultant discussion had been constructive and would improve distributor-exhibitor relationships.

W. A. Carroll, ATOI executive secretary, warned Indiana exhibitors

(Continued on page 6)

4 New Variety Clubs Are Being Organized

Four new Variety Clubs are in the process of formulation, in Houston, Portland, Seattle and London.

The Variety Club, Houston branch of Dallas Tent No. 17 has applied for a charter in accordance with the decision of the last convention in Miami that no tent operate any branch.

The new Tent, No. 34, will be known as the Variety Club of Houston. Its Chief Barker will be John Paul Goodwin. The other petitioners for the charter are: Lou C. Baxley, W. E. Bremer, Fred Camata, Robert Z. Glass, Jack Groves, Al Lever, Mitchell Lewis, Al Mortensen, B. F. Orr, Sid Suhler and Frank Wilkie. Headquarters for the new tent will be

(Continued on page 6)

Goldwyn - Astor Deal Renewed for 1 Year

Samuel Goldwyn Productions has renewed for another year its lease on the Astor on Broadway. Present arrangement expires in February. Under the deal, Goldwyn gives the owner, City Investing Co., a flat guarantee against a percentage on a sliding-scale basis. James Mulvey, president of the Goldwyn company, and Maurice Maurer, house's operator, signed.

U. S. Distributors Granted Argentine Import Certificates

By NATALIO BRUSKI

BUENOS AIRES, July 25 (By Air-mail)—The Argentine government has granted to American distributors here import permits which will be in force for nine months. In order to obtain permits, the U. S. companies were made to relinquish the right to export the dollar currency which would be equivalent to the print costs of the pictures to be imported here.

However, in spite of the loss of the currency export privilege, granting of the permits has been some relief to U. S. distributors, who were threatened with the possibility of having to close down here due

(Continued on page 6)

See up to 30 Films Under Wilson Plan

LONDON, July 28.—British Board of Trade president Harold Wilson's advisors believe that up to 30 features will be produced under his \$20,000,000 government Film Finance Corp., legislation for which is expected to be introduced shortly after Parliament convenes in mid-September. However, exhibitors are skeptical of any such production total emanating from it.

Likely to figure importantly in the plan is Hugh Quennell's British Lion Film Corp., which is Sir Alexander Korda's distribution affiliate. British Lion is the distributor also of Herbert Wilcox's singularly successful pictures, Wilcox being one of the independent producers who is clearly

(Continued on page 6)

Lowell Calvert To Represent Nasser

Lowell Calvert has been named Eastern representative for James Nasser Productions. He will immediately join Nasser in discussions here with United Artists executives on distribution plans for "An Innocent Affair," which will be released by U. A. shortly.

Calvert also represents Samuel Bischoff's Regal Films.

TOA Warns on Non-Payment Of Ascap Fees

A Violation, Subject to Big Fines, Says Sullivan

In a special bulletin to its members on the Federal Court's decision holding Ascapi guilty of violating the anti-trust laws, the Theatre Owners of America warns exhibitors that they "should not stop paying Ascapi until such time as Ascapi is finally enjoined from the collection of license fees or until the judgment becomes final, unless, of course, the particular theatre operator wishes to and is able to negotiate individual, separate contracts with composers, authors and publishers."

The bulletin was sent to all TOA members yesterday over the signature of Gael Sullivan, executive director.

Sullivan points out that "the playing of musical compositions on your screen without a license is a violation of the Federal Copyright Law," re-

(Continued on page 6)

Avoid Signing New Ascap Pacts: ITOA

In the wake of the Federal Court decision adjudging Ascapi to be operating in violation of the anti-trust laws, the Independent Theatre Owners Association of New York, which was the victor in the case, has advised its members not to sign new contracts with the society pending further instructions from ITOA counsel. Most agreements with Ascapi held by ITOA members will begin to expire September 15.

In March, ITOA members signed

(Continued on page 6)

TBA Asks Hearings On Video Channels

WASHINGTON, July 28.—The Television Broadcasters Association has asked the Federal Communications Commission to order hearings as soon as possible to provide additional channels for telecasters. DuMont has also outlined for the commission its plan to give telecasters eight additional channels.

Dr. Thomas T. Goldsmith, for DuMont, suggested that eight new chan-

(Continued on page 6)

Forrestal Approves USO Reactivation

Washington, July 28.—Secretary of Defense Forrestal has approved a Civilian Advisory Committee's recommendation to reactivate the USO, and the USO has agreed to his request that it be reorganized in light of the expanded peacetime armed forces. Wartime USO Chairman Lindsley F. Kimball told Forrestal that the reorganization would be accomplished probably by the end of 1948. Hollywood talent was widely represented in the USO's ranks in World War II.

\$300,000 'New Look' For Victoria Here

City Investing Co. will spend \$300,000 in remodeling its Victoria Theatre, Broadway first-run, with the project to include the addition of 400 seats to make a total of 1,100, according to Maurice Maurer, who operates the house for the investment firm. The house will be closed on Sunday, ending the "Raw Deal" run, and is scheduled for November 5 reopening.

Maurer said one of "Hollywood's biggest" will be the curtain-raiser when the theatre reopens. This was reported to be "Red River," but Maurer would not say so.

A deal that would have given David O. Selznick priority of booking at the Victoria, in a sub-leasing arrangement, discussed for some time, will not be consummated, Maurer said.

Griffis To Promote U. S. Films in Egypt

WASHINGTON, July 28.—Stanton Griffis, chairman of Paramount's executive committee, and newly appointed Ambassador to Egypt, said here today that while in Cairo he would do "everything possible to encourage circulation of American motion pictures throughout the Arab world." Griffis made the statement after bidding a brief farewell to President Truman. He left for New York tonight, and will sail for Egypt tomorrow.

Boston Approves 'Hamlet'

Contrary to reports, "Hamlet" will not be censored in Boston, says Universal-International. The film has been approved by both the Massachusetts State Police, which has censorship powers over Sunday showings, and the Boston City Censor.

Set Four 'Carmen' Dates

Columbia has set four of six pre-release openings for "The Loves of Carmen," to be released nationally later in the year. The film will open in Cincinnati at the Palace or Albee on September 15 or 22; Los Angeles, Hill Street and Pantages, September 15 or 22; Buffalo, Lafayette, September 22, and Houston, Metropolitan, September 23.

Personal Mention

RICHARD DE ROCHEMONT March of Time producer, and **EDWARD SMALL**, producer, will sail for Europe today on the *SS Queen Mary*.

ROBERT GOLDSTEIN, Universal-International executive; **BONNIE CASHIN**, 20th Century-Fox designer, and **LOUELLA PARSONS**, Hollywood columnist, are due to arrive here today on the *SS America*.

A. PAM BLUMENTHAL and **JOSEPH BERNHARD**, Film Classics executives, are here from Hollywood.

GEORGE BROWN, Paramount studio publicity director, is en route here from Hollywood.

JACK ODELL, United Artists' Puerto Rico manager, is visiting in New York.

Vetluguin, MacKenna In New MGM Posts

HOLLYWOOD, July 28.—Voldemar Vetluguin has been elevated from the M-G-M editorial board to producer. At the same time, Kenneth MacKenna was named to supervise the studio's story department in addition to his duties as executive editorial assistant to L. B. Mayer and Dore Schary.

Arnold Jacobs Heads Siritzky Theatres

Arnold Jacobs, in charge of Siritzky International's New York offices, has been named general manager of Siritzky Theatres, the Majestic in Brooklyn, the Ambassador, Elsysee, and the Golden in New York City and the Old South in Boston.

"Takes" Hit Slightly By "Coolers" Strike

Business at Loew and RKO theatres in the New York Metropolitan area was reported slightly off yesterday as the strike of Local 30, International Union of Operating Engineers, AFL, against the circuits neared the end of its first week, with both sides no nearer to a settlement over wages. Air-conditioning equipment has been idle at the Loew and RKO houses since Saturday.

'Ruth' Big in Baltimore

BALTIMORE, July 28.—Allied Artists' "The Babe Ruth Story" was headed for a new opening day's record at the Town Theatre here today, with an indicated gross in excess of \$3,000 for the first day. Baltimore is Ruth's home city and it figures prominently in the picture's early sequences.

"Ruth" Chicago Meet

CHICAGO, July 28.—Steve Broidy, Monogram president, will preside at a one-day meeting at the Drake Hotel here August 7 on sales policies for "The Babe Ruth Story." Attending will be franchise holders and branch managers.

JOHN JOSEPH, Universal-International advertising-publicity director, left here for the Coast yesterday.

ANDY W. SMITH, JR., 20th Century-Fox's general sales manager, will return to New York today from French Lick, Ind., accompanied by **SAM SHAIN**, exhibitor-public relations liaison.

H. M. BESSEY, executive vice-president of Altec Service, and **E. O. WILSCHKE**, operations manager, have returned here from Chicago.

CHARLES F. KESSNICH, M-G-M district manager, will return to Atlanta at the weekend from New York.

ED HINCHY, head of Warner's home office playdate department, is in Cleveland.

Dave Flexer Resumes Buying for Four

MEMPHIS, July 28.—Dave Flexer, owner of Flexer Theaters, reports his Memphis office has resumed booking and buying of films for his theaters in Memphis, Amory, New Albany and Sardis, Miss.

Last January, M. A. Lightman and associates acquired a minor interest in the Flexer houses whereby they handled booking and buying for the four theaters. The arrangement has been terminated August 1.

'Lady in Ermine' Is Rated 'B' by Legion

Twentieth Century-Fox's "That Lady in Ermine" has been given a B classification by the National Legion of Decency. Classified A-1 are Columbia's "The Arkansas Swing," United Artists' "Silent Conflict" and Columbia's "The Strawberry Roan."

In Class A-II are: Republic's "Eyes of Texas," RKO Radio's "Good Sam," Universal-International's "Mr. Peabody and the Mermaid," Republic's "Moonrise," and Columbia's "Thunderhoof."

Final RKO Regional Ends on the Coast

SAN FRANCISCO, July 28.—Fifth and final in a series of RKO Radio zone meetings was concluded here today at the St. Frances Hotel, distribution presided over by Robert Mochrie, distribution vice-president.

Harry J. Michelson, short subject sales manager, spoke of the increasing need of short subjects as part of the present day theatre program. Walter E. Branson, Western division sales manager, also spoke.

Suspend Milland

HOLLYWOOD, July 28.—Paramount has placed Ray Milland on suspension following his refusal to appear in "A Mask for Lucretia," scheduled to start in August. No announcement as to who will replace Milland has been made.

New Financing for German Industry

WASHINGTON, July 28.—The German motion picture industry has received a vital boost with the organization of a new film financing company in Hamburg, the U. S. Commerce Department announced today.

In a report issued by film chief Nathan D. Golden, the Department states that nine prominent Hamburg businessmen have contributed to form a new company, the Filmfinanzring, m. b. N. As yet no public announcement of the new firm has been made. It will finance production as well as other film industry transactions.

Golden points out that lack of capital has been a retarding factor on German film production since the end of the war, with producers having to wait for the returns from one film before commencing another. Now, he declares, the financing problem will be partly licked and the German industry resume a more normal development.

West Pointers Honor Zukor and Paramount

WEST POINT, N. Y., July 28.—Adolph Zukor, Paramount board chairman, accepted from the Dialectic Society of the U. S. Military Academy tonight a plaque symbolizing "honorary membership of our friends from Paramount in the Dialectic Society of the U. S. Military Academy in gratitude for their portrayal of life at West Point in the motion picture, 'Beyond Glory'."

The occasion was a dinner in the Academy Mess Hall, commemorating the making of the picture here. Present were representatives of the press, radio and magazines, and the following from Paramount, in addition to Zukor: Charles Reagan, Paul Rabinow, Russell Holman, E. K. O'Shea, and others.

Screen Guild Will Hold Five Meetings

Screen Guild Productions will hold a series of weekend sales meetings starting tomorrow at the Warwick Hotel, New York. Meetings on successive weekends will be held at the William Penn Hotel, Pittsburgh; Blackstone Hotel, Chicago; Peabody, Memphis, and a final session in San Francisco.

Arthur Greenblatt, sales executive, will preside, announcing product and policy for the new season.

U.K. Critic Vs. M-G-M

LONDON, July 28.—The critics' circle here is launching a fund to help Mrs. E. Arnot Robertson, former film critic for British Broadcasting Corp., raise the money necessary for her to pursue an appeal to the House of Lords of her slander and libel suit against M-G-M. The distributor won on Monday its appeal against a prior judgment favoring Mrs. Robertson, who will require an estimated 3,000 pounds (\$12,000) additional to press the case further.

BIG WARNER BROS.

TRADE SHOW

AUG. 9th

A LAUGHIN', RIOTIN' TECHNICOLOR ROUND-UP OF SONG AND SPECTACLE!!!

ALL
THIS
RHYTHM!

ALL
THIS
ROMANCE!

ALL
THESE
TALL,
TERRIFIC
TEXAS
SWEETHEARTS!!!

DENNIS MORGAN ★ JACK CARSON

TURNING THE LONE STAR STATE INTO A STATE OF HILARITY!

"TWO GUYS
FROM
TEXAS"

Songs!

ALL NEW! ALL HITS!

'EVERYDAY I LOVE YOU
A LITTLE BIT MORE'

'HANKERIN'

'I DON'T CARE IF IT RAINS
ALL NIGHT'

'I WANT TO BE A COWBOY
IN THE MOVIES'

'MUSIC IN THE LAND'
and more!

WARNER
BROS.
MUSICAL
SMASH!

DOROTHY MALONE ★ PENNY EDWARDS

Screen Play by I. A. L. Diamond and Allen Boretz • Suggested by a Play by Robert Sloane

Produced by and Louis Pelletier • Orchestral Arrangements by Ray Heindorf Directed by

ALEX GOTTLIEB

Music by Jule Styne • Lyrics by Sammy Cahn

DAVID BUTLER

He's in it, too!
That rootin'
shootin'
carrot chewin'
western,
BUGS BUNNY!

Worner Screening Room
79 N. Pearl St. • 12:30 P.M.

ATLANTA
20th Century-Fox Screening Room
197 Woltan St. N.W. • 2:30 P.M.

BOSTON
RKO Screening Room
122 Arlington St. • 2:30 P.M.

BUFFALO
Paramount Screening Room
464 Franklin St. • 2:00 P.M.

CHARLOTTE
20th Century-Fox Screening Room
308 S. Church St. • 10:00 A.M.

CHICAGO
Worner Screening Room
1307 So. Wabash Ave. • 1:30 P.M.

CINCINNATI
RKO Screening Room
Poloce Th. Bldg. E. 6th • 8:00 P.M.

CLEVELAND
Worner Screening Room
2300 Payne Ave. • 2:00 P.M.

DALLAS
20th Century-Fox Screening Room
1803 Wood St. • 2:00 P.M.

DENVER
Paramount Screening Room
2100 Stout St. • 2:00 P.M.

DES MOINES
20th Century-Fox Screening Room
1300 High St. • 12:45 P.M.

DETROIT
Film Exchange Building
2310 Cass Ave. • 2:00 P.M.

INDIANAPOLIS
Universal Screening Room
517 No. Illinois St. • 1:00 P.M.

KANSAS CITY
20th Century-Fox Screening Room
1720 Wyandotte St. • 1:30 P.M.

LOS ANGELES
Worner Screening Room
2025 S. Vermont Ave. • 2:00 P.M.

MEMPHIS
20th Century-Fox Screening Room
151 Vonce Ave. • 10:00 A.M.

MILWAUKEE
Worner Theatre Screening Room
212 W. Wisconsin Ave. • 2:00 P.M.

MINNEAPOLIS
Worner Screening Room
1000 Currie Ave. • 2:00 P.M.

NEW HAVEN
Worner Theatre Projection Room
70 College St. • 2:00 P.M.

NEW ORLEANS
20th Century-Fox Screening Room
200 S. Liberty St. • 1:30 P.M.

NEW YORK
Home Office
321 W. 44th St. • 2:30 P.M.

OKLAHOMA
20th Century-Fox Screening Room
10 North Lee St. • 1:30 P.M.

OMAHA
20th Century-Fox Screening Room
1502 Davenport St. • 1:00 P.M.

PHILADELPHIA
Worner Screening Room
230 No. 13th St. • 2:30 P.M.

PITTSBURGH
20th Century-Fox Screening Room
1715 Blvd. of Allies • 1:30 P.M.

PORTLAND
Jewel Box Screening Room
1947 N.W. Kearney St. • 2:00 P.M.

SALT LAKE
20th Century-Fox Screening Room
216 East 1st South • 2:00 P.M.

SAN FRANCISCO
Paramount Screening Room
205 Golden Gate Ave. • 1:30 P.M.

SEATTLE
Jewel Box Screening Room
2318 Second Ave. • 10:30 A.M.

ST. LOUIS
S'enco Screening Room
3143 Olive St. • 1:00 P.M.

WASHINGTON
Worner Theatre Building
13th & E Sts. N.W. • 10:30 A.M.

SUMMER HIT-WAVE ST

as New York critics follow their

"Emperor Waltz" and "Foreign Affair"

raves with high praise for . . .

PARAMOUNT'S THIRD SIMULTANEOUS

RAY
MILLAND • ANN
TODD
By courtesy of J. Arthur Rank

GERALDINE
FITZGERALD
in
HAL WALLIS'
production

"So Evil My Love"

with
Leo G. Carroll
Raymond Huntley
Martita Hunt
Raymond Lovell



FLASH!

From First Out-Of-Town Dates

It's topping Paramount's previous top-suspense drama of 1948 in Atlantic City and Cincinnati.

Moir Lister
Roderick Lovell
Directed by LEWIS ALLEN
Screenplay by Leonard Spigelgass and Ronald Millar
A Paramount Picture

HIKES AGAIN!!

BADWAY HIT!

"'So Evil My Love' scores hit. Fascinating...story of a dashing cad who entices a weak woman to her destruction."

—Alton Cook, *World-Telegram*

"Loaded with boxoffice ingredients... Destined for a long stay at the Rivoli... Odds-on winner."

—Lee Mortimer, *Mirror*

"No better acting can be found in town than on the Rivoli screen. Women...delight in melodramas of this sort."

—Wanda Hale, *Daily News*

"Suspenseful...ingenious...chiller...with inventive plot twists and spectacularly good performances."

—Cecelia Ager, *N. Y. Star*

"Strange, always interesting melodrama...piling evil on evil...Hal Wallis knows how to make them."

—Eileen Creelman, *Sun*

"Few movie descents into murder have been acted as perfectly. All performances excellent."

—Archer Winsten, *Post*

"A walloping amount of suspense. Boiling passion, blackmail and murder...splendidly dished up by all hands."

—Lew Sheaffer, *Brooklyn Eagle*

ATOI Defers Action

(Continued from page 1)

of the likelihood of permissive legislation for the levying of admission taxes at the local level being introduced at the bi-annual session of the state legislature, which convenes next Jan. 1.

William Ainsworth, president of Allied States, spoke on organizational matters and the Allied national convention at New Orleans, Nov. 30-Dec. 2.

Trueman Rembusch, ATOI president, reported that the board of directors had negotiated a 25 per cent reduction in film haulage rates with Indiana Film Transit, effective immediately. The new rates will also apply to Louisville, served out of the Indianapolis exchanges.

The ATOI board voted unanimously to invite national Allied and its Caravan Committee to establish headquarters in Indianapolis, a more central location since the recent formation of new Allied units in Western Central and Southern areas. Caravan presently is handled by Eastern Pennsylvania Allied, with Sidney Samuelson of that organization, chairman. Change of Caravan headquarters would involve no change of its policy or administrative personnel, it was stated.

Mediation Plan

(Continued from page 1)

conciliation and mediation plans in the past has been due to the fact that they were conceived on a national basis."

Smith declared that the Minneapolis plan, "promised on a local-level basis, is founded on the good faith of both exhibitor and distributor and has no direct relationship to national viewpoints one way or another."

Coyne stated here that national support would require board approval because of the intra-industry nature of the program, as being apart from such matters as 16mm. competition and television which originate outside the film business.

Predict 30 Features

(Continued from page 1)

not in need of governmental aid.

Trade experts anticipate that Wilson ultimately will be obliged to establish a State distribution organization as a corollary to his production plans.

James H. Lawrie, nominee as chairman of the Wilson Plan's organizing committee, is clearly a stop-gap. Eventually he will become chairman of Film Finance Corp., of which members of the organizing committee will be directors.

Lawrie admits he has no illusions regarding his new job.

"The City," he says, "evidently doesn't think film production now is a sound investment. The government has had to come along and provide money. I am determined it shall be a commercial proposition."

Extra Time

(Continued from page 1)

restricted under the decree to a two-week Loop run because it is booked into a defendant theatre. Allied Artists, however, it was learned, may ask for the extension through unofficial channel rather than through legal action.

Reviews

"Good Sam"

(Rainbow-RKO Radio)

AN UNUSUAL fund of warmth and humor enriches "Good Sam," a comedy-drama showing how charity towards others can be exercised to the point of a fault. Producer-director Leo McCarey has shown some adroit showmanship, from both merchandising and histrionic viewpoints, in teaming Gary Cooper and Ann Sheridan. They complement one another smartly.

The screenplay provided the pair is an easy-going affair that meanders almost plotlessly in and out of situations, turning up chuckles and cracker-barrel wisdom. Emphasis is on characterization—rather than dramatic involvements—and some superb ones come up. The one weakness is its running time of close to two hours, tending to put the proceedings in a prolonged and fitful mood.

Cooper, as a small city family man who believes in being everybody's friend, develops into an oddly memorable character as he stumbles in and out of the predicaments that are the consequences of his beliefs. As Miss Sheridan, his wife, says succinctly, the trouble with Cooper is that "he's his brother's keeper and he has too many brothers." The pungent truth of this observation is demonstrated in the Ken Englund screenplay by a parade of incidents, such as the generous offering of the family car to the neighbors, only to have it returned smashed, or the offering of sanctuary in the Cooper home to every passing friend and stranger.

As is inevitable, events finally take an unfortunate turn for Cooper. He not only is robbed of a charity collection, but finds he may forever lose his new "dream-home" because debtors are a little sluggish in their repayments. A joyous finale ends the drama, however, in which Cooper discovers that his generousities of the past were really bread upon the water. A Rainbow film, the story centers mostly around the two principals, but fine assistance in supporting roles are offered by Ray Collins, Edmund Lowe, Joan Loring and Clinton Sundberg.

Running time, 114 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, September 1.

MANDEL HERBSTMAN

"Sorry, Wrong Number"

(Paramount)

A LOT of melodramatic suspense, mingled with touches of irony, is contained in Paramount's "Sorry, Wrong Number." The combined talents of Hal Wallis and Anatole Litvak went into the production which at once tries to oblige the tastes of gangster thriller and psychological drama fans. Good production treatment and a reliable cast headed by Barbara Stanwyck and Burt Lancaster are the feature's primary boxoffice merits. On the other side is a story whose development is often obscure, and dialogue that frequently lacks freshness.

The suspenseful element derives from Miss Stanwyck's predicament. An invalid wife of Lancaster, she chances to hear on a crossed telephone wire two men plotting a murder that night. After a series of frantic happenings, the realization grips her that she is to be the victim. Through flashbacks there unfolds the story of how Miss Stanwyck met Lancaster and their subsequent marriage which developed into a contest of wills leading to Miss Stanwyck's psychological malady. In time, her husband, hard-pressed by rival thieves is forced to make a deal with them entailing his wife's murder for the insurance.

No doubt underworld films portraying malignant characters have a mass appeal. This one however seems weakened by events that lack the authority of credibility. An unorthodox finale terminates the film. In a desperate last-minute effort to save his wife, Lancaster phones her, only to hear the killer's laconic reply, "Sorry, wrong number." A Wallis production, directed by Litvak; its cast is rounded out by Ann Richards, Wendell Corey and Harold Vermilyea. Lucille Fletcher wrote the screenplay.

Running time, 89 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, September 24.

M. H.

Argentine Imports

(Continued from page 1)

to a product shortage.

During the first six months of this year, 238 features were released in Buenos Aires. A breakdown of their origin shows that 120 came from the U. S.; 26 from Italy; 28 from Mexico; 15 from England; eight each from Spain and France; two from Chile; one each from Sweden, Uruguay and Cuba, and 28 were produced in Argentina.

Two Notable Aspects

Most notable aspect of this survey is the increase of Italian films at the expense of Hollywood product which, however, still accounts for over 50 per cent of the total. Also notable is the complete absence of films from the Soviet which, in the corresponding period of last year, released 50 pictures here.

TBA Asks Hearings

(Continued from page 1)

nels be obtained from Government services, giving telecasters a total of 20 channels and thus relieving the present tight situation. He proposed that three additional frequencies be used to relieve stations that are poorly spaced and five additional channels be used in communities where more channels are needed to give proper competition.

The commission's hearings on re-allocating existing television channels recessed this morning until August 16, when oral argument will be heard on the proposals.

Mrs. Edward Rogers, 70

Funeral services will be held in Phoenix, Ariz., tomorrow for Mrs. Edward Rogers, 70, mother of Tom Rogers, radio contact for Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer.

TOA Warns on Ascap

(Continued from page 1)

mindings exhibitors that "the money penalty for such violations can be great."

"Exhibitors," says the bulletin, "must take no comfort in the fallacious premise that individual copyright owners, on their own, or through Ascap, or through some other organization, will not police for copyright violations and will, if detected, do nothing about them. The amount paid is comparatively small and dangers of non-payment may be very substantial."

Members are advised to continue meeting their Ascap obligations until notified to the contrary. "The case does not eliminate the requirement of theatre operators' paying for performance rights," they are warned.

Asserting that "the ultimate value of this decision will be in how much time and money can be saved the exhibitor," the bulletin contends that Judge Vincent L. Leibel's ruling "promises neither," but rather "changes the method of collection that in the long pull can be more costly than the current method of paying for performance rights."

Sullivan concludes that "the end result for the exhibitor can be stated simply—Ascap, by any other name, will cost the same—or more."

Avoid Ascap Pacts

(Continued from page 1)

six-month contracts with Ascap. In pressing the suit the plaintiffs won an understanding that fees due the society be held in escrow in a special fund. The question now is what is to be done with that money. The feeling in some quarters is that Judge Vincent L. Leibel, who sat on the case, will order that it be turned back to the plaintiffs.

New Variety Clubs

(Continued from page 1)

in the Texas State Hotel.

International Chief Barker R. J. O'Donnell, expects to visit Portland and Seattle in August where he will talk with film men in those cities who are anxious to start local Variety Clubs. Bill McCraw, executive director of the clubs is expected to join O'Donnell for the trip to the Northwest.

Second Assistant international chief barker, C. J. Latta, now located in London for Warner Brothers, reports progress in the formation of a Variety Club in that country. Widespread interest is reported among British industry men in Gerat Britain for a tent and international officers here expect an application for a charter before the end of the year.

Regular 'Joan' Scales

(Continued from page 1)

of the picture, following the "Best Years of Our Lives" selling pattern. These would not involve admission price-fixing as outlawed by the U. S. Supreme Court.

Negative costs in the neighborhood of \$3,000,000 for each of the films gave rise to the belief that tilted admission prices would be asked for both in rental contracts.

Roadshowing of any type for "Red River" has been ruled out. United Artists, distributor, already has more than 300 signed contracts for it, it is said.

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and
Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

DO NOT
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NEWS

Vol. 4, No. 21

NEW YORK, U. S. A., FRIDAY, JULY 30, 1948

TEN CENTS

Believe Quota Relief Is Up To State Dep't

Industry Sees No Other Likelihood of Action

Having abandoned ideas on a direct and concerted action against the British 45 per cent exhibitor quota, U. S. film companies now pin their hopes for relief on U. S. State Department intervention based on the quota's possible violation of international trade agreements.

Reporting this, one top official close to the situation said yesterday that the companies believe that there is "little we can do as an industry" if the quota persists as the law of England. If the quota can be found in violation of the international trade agreements, however, its repeal would be looked for through the U. S. State Department, it was said.

Additionally, it is felt here that British exhibitors will not have available native pictures sufficient in number to make the quota law workable.

Film companies chiefs had discussed an assortment of anti-quota

(Continued on page 4)

Quota Is Too High, Says ABPC Chief

LONDON, July 29.—Sir Philip Watter, chairman of Associated British Pictures Corp., told the company's annual stockholders meeting that he is unable to foresee a sufficient supply of British films to fulfill the new 45 per cent quota. Emphasizing, however, that

(Continued on page 7)

Cost-of-Living Raise Sought at Studios

Hollywood, July 29.—IATSE president Richard Walsh will return to New York over the weekend after a week of preliminary negotiations with producers for a cost-of-living increase for hundreds in "IA" studio locals.

It is understood the demand was opposed by producers on the ground that the industry is in no condition to warrant raises. It will be left in abeyance until after the IATSE convention in Cleveland, starting August 16.

Rename Johnston to ECA Advisory Board

WASHINGTON, July 29.—Appointments of three industry officials to top Government jobs were included in a long list that President Truman re-submitted today to the Senate for confirmation.

Included are the nomination of Motion Picture Association of America president Eric A. Johnston as a member of the Economic Cooperation Administration advisory board, Paramount executive committee chairman Stanton Griffis as Ambassador to Egypt, and Frank Capra as an alternate delegate to the third session of the United Nations Educational, Social and Cultural Organization.

These appointments were submitted first during the closing days of the regular session. The Senate adjourned without acting on them, and they were given interim appointments. The Senate Republican policy committee has already indicated it will not approve any major nominations at the special session, indicating that these officials will continue to hold only interim appointments.

Urge Regulation of Rank Theatre Clubs

LONDON, July 29.—The London County Council, the government of Britain's capital, today received from its general purposes committee a report recommending the appointment of an advisory committee to supervise the organization and control of J. Arthur Rank's Children's Saturday Morning Cinema Clubs.

Allowing that Rank's intentions are commendable, the Council committee recommends, however, an attempt to "improve the Saturday morning shows by seeking to raise the standard of the films and the behavior of the audience."

The committee suggests also that the British Board of Film Censors extend its code of film classification

(Continued on page 7)

New Drive-Ins Are Mushrooming in US

In addition to the listing in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on July 22 of new drive-in building—which is far surpassing the most optimistic expectations of the blue-printing days of last winter and fall—are the following projects, which also represent only a partial tally:

Airdrome Amusement Co.'s project at Milldale, Conn., cost \$100,000, with

(Continued on page 7)

Argentine Tax Bill To Aid Film Scribes

Buenos Aires, July 27 (By Airmail).—Under a bill introduced in the Argentine legislature, exhibitors are required to pay three per cent of their box-office returns to the government, which would distribute the tax among all who participated in the preparation of native screenplays as well as the authors of original books or stories which had been transformed to the screen.

The proposed legislation provides also for such payments to authors of imported films if their countries of origin accord equal treatment to Argentine film writers.

Para. Theatre Video In Chicago and Coast

Paramount has on order full-screen television equipment for installation as soon as possible at one of its affiliated theatres in Chicago and Los Angeles, Paul Raibourn, president of Paramount Television Productions, said yesterday. Delivery of the equipment already is overdue, he added. He would not identify the theatres but presumably the Coast house will either be the Hollywood or the Downtown.

The veil of mystery that has surrounded Paramount's theatre television system was lifted slightly by Raibourn although a thorough description of its intermediate process remains a secret. Raibourn stated that only standard equipment is used, including receiver tube, camera apparatus and regular theatre projector. The difference lies in Paramount's "unique system" of assembling the component parts of the machinery, and nothing else, he said.

The Paramount method receives television images on a receiver in the projection booth, rapidly processes film taken direct from the tube, and projects that film on the large screen.

Film Classics Will Convene Here Today

Film Classics' first worldwide sales meeting will open here today in the Hotel Astor, to run three days.

Delegates will gather first at the Preview Theatre to see "Sofia" and "Miraculous Journey," Film Classics' first two new Cinecolor specials. The group will then go to the Astor for lunch, after which B. G. Kranze, sales vice-president, will call the meeting to

(Continued on page 7)

Ascap Decision Perils Theatre Video: TOA

Tough Performing Rights Job Seen for Exhibitors

Theatre presentation of television programs other than televised films will face a serious threat should the Federal Court ban on Ascap's issuance of blanket licenses stand, according to an analysis by Herman M. Levy, Theatre Owners of America general counsel, of Judge Vincent L. Leibell's decision holding the society guilty in the anti-trust action brought against it by 164 members of the Independent Theatre Owners Association of New York.

The analysis expresses the view that if the decision is not appealed from or is affirmed on

(Continued on page 7)

Canadian Liaison to Aid U. S. Producers

Appointment of A. H. Newman of the Department of Trade and Commerce in Ottawa as the Canadian government's central liaison for all American film production in the Dominion was reported here yesterday by the Motion Picture Association of America. The Ottawa office of Newman will serve as a clearing house for all U. S. producers planning production in Canada.

(Continued on page 7)

AFM Now Seeks to Open Talks Aug. 18

A further bid for the start of negotiations with producers for a new contract covering studio musicians has been made by the American Federation of Musicians, which now offers August 18 as a date for initial conferences between representatives of both sides. The place suggested for the talks is New York. Chicago had previously been suggested as the locale.

The AFM board is scheduled to meet in Chicago the week of August 9. Producers have declined an invitation to confer with the union at the same time.

Personal Mention

JAMES R. GRAINGER, executive vice-president of Republic, is back in New York after three weeks on the Coast.

CHARLES CROWLEY, manager of Warner's Grand and Globe, Vineland, N. J., has returned to his desk after "vacationing" at Pine Camp, N. Y., with the National Guard in which he holds the rank of captain.

WILLIAM B. GULETTE of the Preview Theatre here, and **MRS. GULETTE**, are parents of a second daughter, **CHARLENE ANN**, born at Harkness Pavillion here.

LON T. FIDLER, Monogram franchise holder in Salt Lake City, has been released from the hospital there where he spent three weeks following a heart attack.

LULLY SEEGER, secretary to **EMANUEL SILVERSTONE** of 20th Century-Fox, will return to the home office on Monday from a Hollywood vacation.

BELLE MEYER, secretary to **SAM SEIDELMAN**, Eagle-Lion's foreign operations chief, is vacationing at Livingston Manor, N. Y.

G. L. CARRINGTON, president of Altac, is en route back to the Coast from New York, with a stopover scheduled for Chicago.

MAY HELABIAN of Columbia's exploitation department will be married to **HARRY CHAKMAKIAN** on Sunday.

PAUL HOLLISTER, RKO Radio publicity director, is in Hollywood from here.

Rosenfeld Tops SRO So. American Sales

Isidro Rosenfeld has been named supervisor for the Selznick Releasing Organization in Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay, Paraguay and Chile with headquarters in Buenos Aires, by **Milton A. Kramer**, SRO board chairman. He will work under the direction of **Manny Reiner**, managing director in Latin America.

Rosenfeld recently was supervisor for Samuel Goldwyn and Walt Disney in Mexico and part of South America. Prior to that he was with Warner Brothers for 18 years in South America.

Dudelson Becomes Eagle-Lion Manager

Harris Dudelson has been named Cincinnati branch manager for Eagle-Lion by **William J. Heineman**, distribution vice-president.

Dudelson, who entered the industry in 1925 as United Artists booker in Cleveland, has continued with that company in more important posts ever since. He was appointed Cleveland branch manager this year, which post he resigned to join Eagle-Lion.

Insider's Outlook

By **RED KANN**

DAGGERS, North-to-South and in reverse, are puncturing the atmosphere between Paramount in New York and E. V. Richards, Jr., in New Orleans. The feeling in both directions runs pretty high at the moment and the outcome is not yet in sight.

"Rich," of course, is a Paramount theatre partner and as dominant a figure in his territory today as he has been for all these many years. The dispute is over film rentals about which distributors, with no known exception, have been beefing practically from time immemorial.

The inside is that, Paramount long patient, finally decided on the leap by informing Richards he no longer could buy its product for sub-runs at about 15 per cent of the gross when competitive subs paid as much as 35 per cent; that after Paramount product already booked—and probably not going beyond "The Emperor Waltz"—had played, terms had to be re-cast upwards.

Now Richards, who can be as tough as steel and is known to have proven it often, replied "No dice" or some picturesque words to the same effect; that he had gotten along without Metro and Universal and would manage to survive without Paramount. He also is understood to have observed somewhat acidly that any sharp increase in percentage terms, obviously, would cut into his profits, thereby reduce his net and affect the value of his stock—the latter a highly important equation in the event theatre divorce is made mandatory by the New York circuit court re-appraising the Government suit against the majors.

It's a standoff at present with unknown chapters yet to be filled in. They could be very exciting.

Communicate on Nick Schenck:

- 1.—He's delighted with the appointment of **Dore Schary** as V. P. in charge of production.
- 2.—He's tickled over the way "Easter Parade" is zooming.
- 3.—He's delighted and tickled because his health is sharply improved. And he's not relying on his own opinion. His doctor is the authority.

About "The Emperor Waltz" here in New York. The attraction leaves the Music Hall at the close of business next Wednesday night, at which time it will have rounded out seven weeks to these estimated grosses:

Week of	Grosses
June 17	\$160,000
June 24	152,000
July 1	156,000
July 8	145,000
July 15	135,000
July 22	123,000
July 29 [Final]	115,000

Seven Weeks\$986,000

No other show played the Hall as long this year. Only one, "The Bachelor and the Bobby Soxer," matched it for length of run in calendar 1947 and nothing outdistanced it in that year. Long-termers in '46 were "The Jolson Story," "Notorious" and "Anna and the King of Siam," each one running eight weeks. Not since that year has Paramount been in the theatre. The film then was "To Each His Own," which remained four weeks.

Add Hollywood stories:

The one about the self-inflated producer gathering sidewalk comment after the preview of his latest. Spying one of the studio office boys, he asked:

"And how did you like the picture?"

Office Boy: "To tell you the truth, I didn't."

Producer: "You didn't? And who are you not to like it?"

O. B.—"And who do I have to be not to like it?"

There is a very harried sales manager around the town. His product has been ranging from nervous "A's" to the pediculous, but now he actually has a very first-rate attraction on his hands.

"I'm not sure whether it's better to have a lot of stinkers. At least, no one bothers to come near you and the phones are pretty quiet. With a clicker in the house, everyone wants to get into the act and make the deals. There's simply no peace and quiet it it."

Remember those exhibitors who have been saying, "There'll be no advertising on my screen."

They haven't raised a peep about "The Fuller Brush Man."

Accord Ends Strike Of Cooling Men Here

Air-conditioning systems were back in operation yesterday at all RKO and Loew houses in the Metropolitan area following settlement late Wednesday night of the five-day strike called against the circuits by Local No. 30 International Union of Operating Engineers, AFL, over a wage dispute.

The settlement provides for a 15 per cent wage increase in theatres in the Broadway sector and 10 per cent in the neighborhoods. The settlement is the second year of the two-year contract is open to further negotiation. The agreement is retroactive to last April 1. The union had asked for a one-year contract with a straight 15 per cent hike.

The big Broadway houses, which also were involved in the dispute, reached an early settlement with the union with the understanding they would abide by the terms agreed upon by the circuits and Local 30.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
BING CROSBY **JOAN FONTAINE**
in **"THE EMPEROR WALTZ"**
Color by **TECHNICOLOR**
A Paramount Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

Paramount presents
JEAN ARTHUR
MARLENE DIETRICH
JOHN LUND
in **"A Foreign Affair"**
in Person **JO STAFFORD**
plus **GEORGE GAY** & **THE LANE BROTHERS**
Featuring **SAM DONAHUE**
And His Orchestra
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE MIDNIGHT FEATS NIGHTLY

Paramount Presents
RAY MILLAND
ANN TODD
GERALDINE FITZGERALD
in **"So Evil My Love"**
in **HAL WALLIS'** production
RIVOLI
DOORS OPEN 9:30 A. M. 49th Street

ROY DEL RUTH'S "THE BABE RUTH STORY"
Starring **WILLIAM BENDIX** & **TREVOR BICKFORD**
An Allied Artists Production
ASTOR B'WAY AT 45TH ST. Cont. Performances • Pop Prices

MARK STEVENS • RICHARD WIDMARK
"THE STREET WITH NO NAME"
A 20th Century-Fox Picture
ON VARIETY STAGE—CAB CALLOWAY
JACKIE MILES • VIVIAN BLAINE
ON ICE STAGE—CAROL LYNN
ARNOLD SHODA • THE BRUISES
ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

That "BOXOFFICE WINNER"... VARIETY

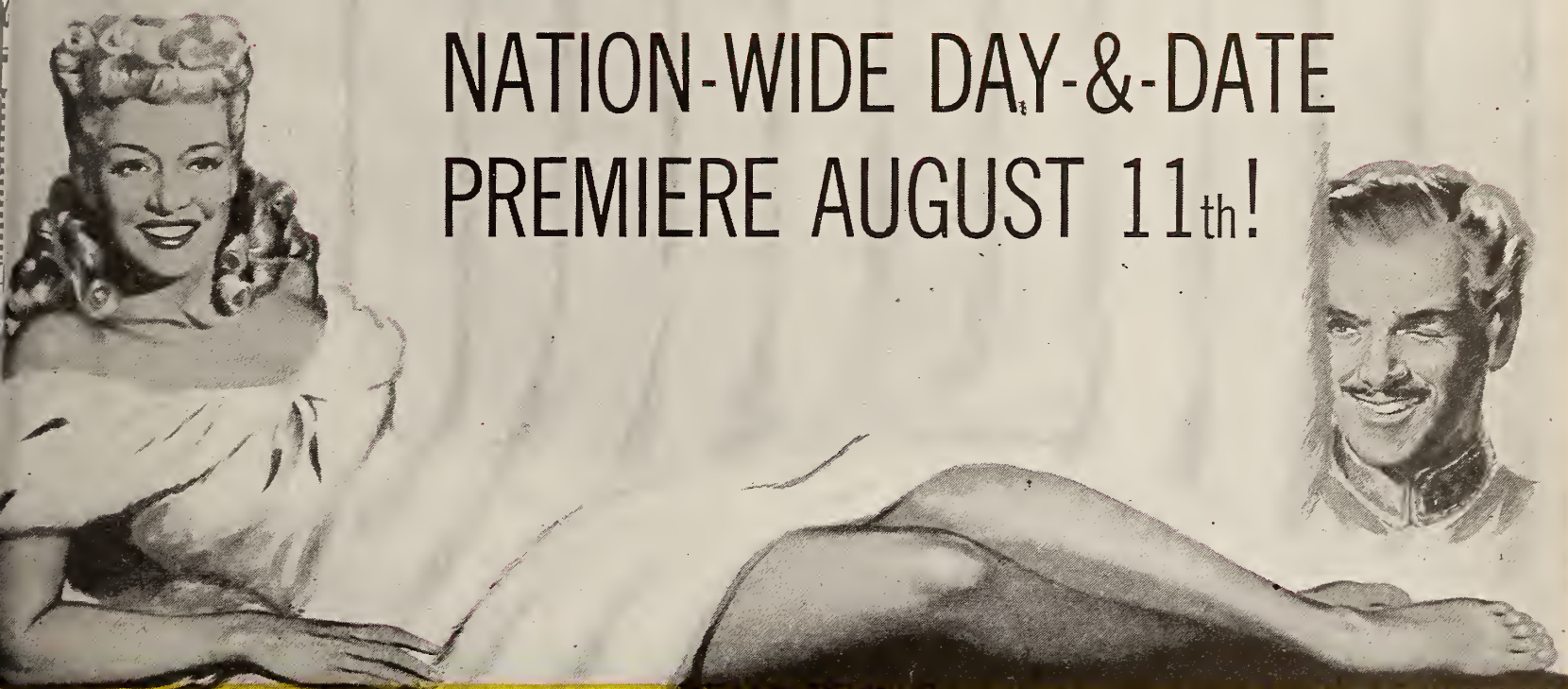
That "POTENT BOXOFFICE HIT"... FILM DAILY

That "OUTSTANDING MUSICAL"... BOXOFFICE

"That **LADY IN ERMINE**"

is ready for

NATION-WIDE DAY-&-DATE
PREMIERE AUGUST 11th!



BETTY GRABLE • DOUGLAS FAIRBANKS, JR.

That **LADY IN ERMINE**

COLOR BY TECHNICOLOR

20th
CENTURY-FOX

CESAR ROMERO • Walter Abel • Reginald Gardiner

Harry Davenport • Virginia Campbell • Whit Bissell • Produced and Directed by ERNST LUBITSCH

Screen Play by Samson Raphaelson • Lyrics and Music by Leo Robin and Frederick Hollander • Dances Staged by Hermes Pan

'Youth Month' Drive Goes Into High Gear

"Youth Month" has received fresh impetus from several quarters, Charles P. Skouras, national chairman of the Theatre Owners of America's youth month committee, has announced.

Advertising Council, Inc. is preparing advertisements for newspapers throughout the country and it will further its radio support. It will also be stressed in the "Dr. I.Q." and the Ted Malone radio programs. Sammy Kaye and his orchestra have volunteered to score the youth month song "I Am the YOU in the U.S.A." for the "Salute to Youth" trailer, 2,000 prints of which will be distributed free by National Screen Service on booking arrangements set up between exhibitors and their state chairmen. All NSS service exchanges will have campaign books on hand and lobby hangers will reach exchanges August 9.

British Quota

(Continued from page 1)

joint stands, including a control board under the Motion Picture Export Association which would govern overall sales policies in Britain. Also discussed was a full MPEA operation in England, as well as the establishment of an MPEA service organization in that country. A boycott of all of England and a cessation of dealings with the J. Arthur Rank exhibitor interests reportedly were mentioned, too, but were not given serious attention, it was said.

Meanwhile, reports have it that the MPEA might be extended to other countries where monetary restrictions and other barriers to free trade are threatening.

Seven U. S. Features In Venice Festival

American film companies have entered seven features in the 1948 Venice Film Festival, according to word received yesterday from Paris by the Motion Picture Association of America.

The pictures are Walt Disney's "Melody Time," M-G-M's "National Velvet," Paramount's "The Big Clock," RKO Radio's "The Fugitive," 20th Century-Fox's "Gentleman's Agreement," Universal-International's "A Double Life," and Warner Brothers' "Treasure of Sierra Madre." The festival will be held August 19 to September 4.

Sales Drive Chiefs Set by Youngstein

INDIANAPOLIS, July 29.—Five branch managers have been named deputy captains in the Eagle-Lion William Heineman sales drive by Max Youngstein, advertising-publicity vice-president. They are C. W. Phillips, Chicago; Joe Imhoff, Milwaukee; A. M. Schwartz, Minneapolis; Clair Townsend, Detroit, and J. C. Craddock, Indianapolis. Each will function directly under Youngstein.

Youngstein left here tonight for the home-office after completing the third leg of a nationwide tour of 31 exchange cities as captain of the drive.

\$55,000 for 'Apache'

This fifth and final week of "Fort Apache," with Lena Horne on stage, brought an estimated \$55,000 to the Capitol. A typographical error was responsible for the previous report of a \$5,000 gross in these columns on Wednesday.



H. C. Arthur, Jr.
president,
Fanchon & Marco,
says:

"DO YOU WAIT UNTIL YOUR CAR BREAKS DOWN?"

"It does not make any difference whether you are running a motion picture theatre or you are taking care of your own automobile. There are two ways to do it. You can let your car run until it breaks down on some important trip causing extreme discomfort to your guests who are with you and causing extreme embarrassment to you or you can keep it serviced and save money in ultimate repairs and replacements as well as wear and tear on your nerves and on those of your guests.

"You can run your projection equipment on the same principle until it breaks down. Whether it is your car or your theatre equipment, when it does break down, you will wish you had had a regular efficient service that would have saved you all of the trouble and ultimately the greater expense.

"Altec's service is assurance against breakdown. It saves against a

larger expense in the long run for repairs and replacements and it saves your patrons annoyance and discomfort; both ultimately affect your P. & L. To maintain the goodwill of your patrons and their regular attendance at your theatre, don't let your equipment break down. That is my advice. Altec will help you follow it."

Altec Service, known for its service "over and above the contract" is a vital ingredient of your theatre's ability to meet successfully the competition of other forms of entertainment. An Altec Service contract is the soundest long term investment an exhibitor can make today.

ALTEC
SERVICE CORPORATION

161 Sixth Avenue
New York 13, N.Y.

THE SERVICE ORGANIZATION OF THE MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

Reviews

"Embraceable You"

(Warner Brothers)

Hollywood, July 29

DANE CLARK's is the chief name at hand with which to bill this item in the series of Warner films launched some months ago for the declared purpose of giving minor players an opportunity to demonstrate their talents in principal roles, and thereby build toward stardom more rapidly than otherwise. Veterans S. Z. Sakall and Wallace Ford are set into this number to counter-balance the less experienced performers, and a commonplace type of crime subject is undertaken. It is not to be compared with the top crime pictures which the Warner studio turns out so expertly, but gives an accounting of its 77 minutes.

Clark plays a New York sharpie eking out a living by doing small favors for big shots, including Richard Rober, a gangster who commits a murder in the opening flash and is driven from the scene by Clark. Clark's car strikes Geraldine Brooks, an unemployed show girl who pretends greater injury than she sustains in hope of collecting big damages from the insurance company, but the hit-and-run getaway is successful. Reading of the girl's hospitalization, Clark visits her and comes under suspicion of Detective Ford, who cannot prove Clark's connection with the murder or the hit-and-run but bulldozes him into providing shelter for the girl, whom the doctors have doomed to die of an inoperable aneurism about which they tell Clark but not the girl.

It gets quite complicated from there on, alternating between incidents of romance and violence, and ends with the detective killing the murderer and agreeing with Clark to withhold the news of his hit-and-run guilt until the latter shall have given the now invalidated girl, whom he marries, whatever happiness may remain in store for her. Saul Elkins produced, and Felix Jacoves directed, from a script by Edna Athalt, based on a story by Dietrich W. Hannekin and Aleck Block. The picture is not, as the title might suggest to some, a musical.

Running time, 77 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER.

"Adventures of Gallant Bess"

(Eagle-Lion)

IN "Adventures of Gallant Bess" the wonder-horse does an encore in a film that, in showing off the animal's versatility, is assured of a warm audience reception.

The story is trite, but it serves its purpose well. It is a tale of a man who captures a wild horse and becomes so attached to the animal that he refuses to part with it. Shot in good Cinecolor and featuring capable performers, it follows an old and proven formula. There is not too much action, but there are some colorful scenes shot at a rodeo. A Crestview Production, the picture was produced by Jerry Briskin and Matthew Rapf. Lew Landers directed, from a screenplay by Rapf. Cameron Mitchell and Audrey Long appear in the main parts as the one who loves his horse and the girl who is waiting for him. James Milligan is adequate as the villain.

Mitchell lassoes a beautiful wild horse and decides to keep and train it. Milligan, owner of a rodeo, also wants the horse. Mitchell wins a rodeo prize, but breaks his leg because of Milligan's trickery. The rodeo moves on and Bess is auctioned off to Milligan. Meanwhile Mitchell falls in love with his doctor's daughter. As soon as he is well enough, Mitchell pursues Bess and his prize money. He fights with Milligan and takes off with his pal Fuzzy Knight. Bess follows them and the police send out an alarm for them. Realizing that he cannot escape the law and Milligan forever, Mitchell decides to set Bess free and to marry Miss Long.

Running time, 73 minutes. General audience classification. Release unset.

"Triggerman"

(Columbia)

THIS production packs enough adventure to please Western enthusiasts once the slow pace of the opening sequences is overcome. The footage hums with action and excitement as soon as Johnny Mack Brown, as a Wells Fargo agent assigned to find a chest of gold swiped from a stage, tangles with the villains in a demonstration of violence that gives the hero ample opportunity to test his skill with gun and fists.

A young girl, played by Virginia Carroll, owns a ranch where it is believed the gold is hidden. Raymond Hatton is her foreman. They are trying to find the treasure because it contains a paper which will clear her father, suspected of being involved in the robbery. The gang has one-half of the map which indicates the location of the chest. In its attempt to acquire the other half, it kidnaps the girl. In the finale Brown rescues her and recovers the gold for his company and captures the gangsters. Barney A. Sarecky produced and Howard Bretherton directed. Ronald Davidson wrote the original screenplay.

Running time, 56 minutes. General audience classification.

Swarthout Video Films

WASHINGTON, July 29.—Gladys Swarthout and husband Frank Chapman have formed a company to produce films for television, the singer disclosed here today. The company, which has a modern studio at Newtown, Conn., plans 13 fifteen-minute shorts.

20th Appeals FCC Denial

WASHINGTON, July 29.—Twentieth Century-Fox has filed formal notice of its appeal from Federal Communications Commissioner George Sterling's refusal to allow the company to amend its application for a San Francisco television station. The company wanted to include plans for an auxiliary studio at Oakland, Calif.

BABE HITS HOME RUN!



Biggest World Premiere
Turnout In Broadway
History Sends "The Babe
Ruth Story" Off To A
Slam-bang Start With
A Terrific First Day!



By The Thousands And Thousands They Come To See
ROY DEL RUTH'S

"THE BABE RUTH STORY"

An Allied Artists Production

starring

WILLIAM BENDIX · CLAIRE TREVOR · CHARLES BICKFORD

with SAM LEVENE · WILLIAM FRAWLEY · GERTRUDE NIESEN · MATT BRIGGS · PRODUCED AND DIRECTED BY ROY DEL RUTH

ASSOCIATE PRODUCER JOE KAUFMAN · SCREENPLAY BY BOB CONSIDINE AND GEORGE CALLAHAN

MOTION PICTURE HERALD

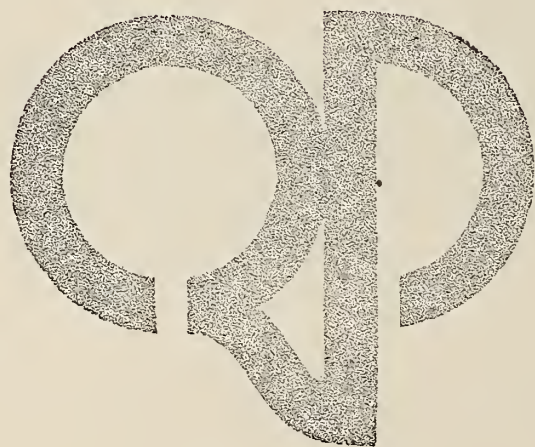
on September 25, 1948 will present an edition marking that constructive Third of A Century of this industry in which Martin Quigley has served as editor and publisher.

QUIGLEY PUBLICATIONS

Rockefeller Center

New York City

1915—1948



MOTION PICTURE HERALD
MOTION PICTURE DAILY
FAME
MOTION PICTURE ALMANAC

Ascap Decision

(Continued from page 1)

appeal, "the theatre operator may have to negotiate for performance rights with all of the composers, authors and publishers whose compositions are used in such television programs." As for televised films, it is pointed out that the problems are the same as in the case of regular films.

His problem of television, together with the licenses for performing rights contained in 'reissued' pictures, and many other problems," Levy asserts, "spotlight very clearly the necessity of having a central agency with which the theatre owner can negotiate for licenses for performing rights."

Levy holds that while Ascap could reorganize so as to become merely an agency for collection of "per piece" license fees for performing rights, such an arrangement by the society "would give to exhibitors a much more expensive and involved arrangement for the payment of performance fees than they had prior to this case." He reminds that the court in discussing the "per piece" idea referred to it as "commercially impracticable."

Levy's analysis carries the warning that none of the injunctive relief recommended by Judge Leibell in favor of the plaintiff exhibitors "means or is intended to mean the elimination of the statutory requirement of payment for performance rights," reiterating that "nothing short of a repeal of the pertinent portion of the Federal Copyright Law could accomplish that."

It is explained by Levy that the decision as it presently stands "merely transfers from Ascap to the motion picture producers the privilege of collecting the fees for performance rights."

In telling TOA members that they will have to decide for themselves whether the decision will benefit them as exhibitors, Levy propounds the question: "Since performance rights must be paid for, would you prefer negotiating with Ascap collectively as exhibitors, or would you rather the motion picture producers did it for you and passed the charge on to you as increased film rental?"

According to the analysis, "those who are informing exhibitors that they will now get performance rights free are doing those exhibitors a great disservice."

Film Classics Meets

(Continued from page 1)

order, over which he will preside with Joseph Bernhard, president.

Delegates who will attend are branch managers Ralph McCoy, Nat Beier, Joseph Miller, B. A. Slaughter, Jr., Edward Spiers, Leavitt Bugie, Sanford Gottlieb, Ralph Peckham, Tom Bailey, George Lefko, Sam Abrams, Leslie F. Durland, Robert P. Abelson, R. H. Hammond, Jr., Max Mazur, Richard Stahl, John McKenna, Harry Decker, Bob Bernhard (latter two are New York salesmen), Sol Reif, Morton Magill, Hyman Wheeler, William Shartin, D. J. Ederle, Sam Sobel, Max Cohen.

Attending division managers are: Jake Lutzer, Max Roth, Samuel Wheeler, and George Waldman.

David Horne, foreign sales manager, will head the foreign delegation consisting of I. H. Allen, Canada; Ralph DeBritto, Portugal; Samuel Bronston, Philippines; and others.

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY correspondents. Estimates omit admission tax.

LOS ANGELES

With "On an Island with You," "Abbott and Costello Meet Frankenstein," "A Foreign Affair" and "Canon City" opening strong, and with "Key Largo" continuing powerfully in the holdover list, first-runs stacked up better than they have in months. Weather and counter-attractions were normal. Estimated receipts for the week ended July 28:

ABBOTT AND COSTELLO MEET FRANKENSTEIN (U-I) and KINGS OF THE OLYMPICS (UA)—GUILD (965) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00). Gross: \$8,000. (Average: \$5,450)

ABBOTT AND COSTELLO MEET FRANKENSTEIN (U-I) and KINGS OF THE OLYMPICS (UA)—IRIS (708) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00). Gross: \$8,000. (Average: \$6,100)

ABBOTT AND COSTELLO MEET FRANKENSTEIN (U-I) and KINGS OF THE OLYMPICS (UA)—RITZ (1,376) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00). Gross: \$11,000. (Average: \$9,050)

ABBOTT AND COSTELLO MEET FRANKENSTEIN (U-I) and KINGS OF THE OLYMPICS (UA)—STUDIO (880) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00). Gross: \$8,500. (Average: \$6,300)

ABBOTT AND COSTELLO MEET FRANKENSTEIN (U-I) and KINGS OF THE OLYMPICS (UA)—UNITED ARTISTS (2,100) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00). Gross: \$20,000. (Average: \$9,580)

CANON CITY (E-L) and LADY AT MIDNIGHT (E-L)—BELMONT (1,600) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00). Gross: \$6,500. (Average: \$5,750)

CANON CITY (E-L) and LADY AT MIDNIGHT (E-L)—EL REY (861) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00). Gross: \$7,000. (Average: \$5,700)

CANON CITY (E-L) and LADY AT MIDNIGHT (E-L)—ORPHEUM (2,210) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00). Gross: \$23,000. (Average: \$14,650)

CANON CITY (E-L) and LADY AT MIDNIGHT (E-L)—VOGUE (800) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00). Gross: \$8,000. (Average: \$6,500)

COMMANDOS STRIKE AT DAWN (Col. re-release) and THE INVADERS (Col. re-release)—MUSIC HALL (Beverly Hills) (900) (65c-85c-\$1.00). Gross: \$3,200. (Average: \$3,150)

COMMANDOS STRIKE AT DAWN (Col. re-release) and THE INVADERS (Col. re-release)—MUSIC HALL (Downtown) (900) (65c-85c-\$1.00). Gross: \$7,000. (Average: \$7,550)

COMMANDOS STRIKE AT DAWN (Col. re-release) and THE INVADERS (Col. re-release)—MUSIC HALL (Hawaii) (1,000) (65c-85c-\$1.00) 7 days. Gross: \$3,200. (Average: \$3,400)

COMMANDOS STRIKE AT DAWN (Col. re-release) and THE INVADERS (Col. re-release)—MUSIC HALL (Hollywood) (490) (65c-85c-\$1.00). Gross: \$2,800. (Average: \$3,100)

DEEP WATERS (20th-Fox) and THE CHECKERED COAT (20th-Fox)—CARTHAY CIRCLE (1,516) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: \$6,000. (Average: \$9,500)

DEEP WATERS (20th-Fox) and THE CHECKERED COAT (20th-Fox)—CHINESE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: \$10,500. (Average: \$13,000)

DEEP WATERS (20th-Fox) and THE CHECKERED COAT (20th-Fox)—LOEW'S STATE (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: \$14,500. (Average: \$19,800)

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New Drive - Ins

(Continued from page 1)

Fred Quatrano and Murray Holstein participating. Simplex Projector, among those servicing the expanded field, reports installations at Omak, Wash.; Uniontown, Pa., and Lubbock, Tex. Minnesota Entertainment Enterprises is encircling the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul with drive-ins. William Sears is general manager of MEE. Sue Stewart has been operating a new project at Hattiesburg, Miss., since June.

Jack Jossey and Kroger Babb, independent film distributors, are behind the new Northside Drive-In at Wilmington, O., where the project also has outdoor seating arrangements for 200. Oklahoma City is one of the few Southwestern cities of less than 300,000 with three operations, the Bee Gee being the third. Frank Yassenoff, associated with Harold Schwartz in the Riverside and Eastside drive-ins at Columbus, O., is behind the new 500-car drive-in in Western Franklin County, Ohio, which also has two others.

Among the Capital District's new drive-ins is Sidney Lust's between Hampton and Newport News, Va., a \$150,000 project. Associated with Lust is James Barnes, Thurman Hill and Harry Holt. Its architect, George Petersen, has already blue-printed 150 drive-ins. Tri-States Theatres plans a drive-in circuit in Iowa and Nebraska, to add to its line of regular theatres. Its third is at Cedar Rapids; others are at Des Moines and Omaha, both new operations this season, opening last May. G. Ralph Branton is general manager.

Quota Is Too High

(Continued from page 1)

ABPC will do everything possible to help fulfill the quota, Sir Philip said he has conveyed his pessimistic view of the quota outlook to British Board of Trade president Harold Wilson. The new quota "is too high," Sir Philip believes.

Replying to criticism that ABPC is dominated by Warner Brothers and does not have sufficient confidence to finance more British production, Sir Philip told the gathering that there is no suggestion of Warner domination since Americans do not hold a majority of shares in ABPC, and that the proof of "our concern with British production is the 1,000,000 pounds (\$4,000,000) invested in independent production and the 750,000 pounds (\$3,000,000) which the company has spent on studio reconstruction."

"Star Month" Drive Is Set by 20th - Fox

First of a series of exploitation campaigns will be inaugurated next month by 20th Century-Fox to launch its "Star Month" designed to give maximum publicity to the stars in two of its feature releases in August, "That Lady in Ermine" and "Walls of Jericho." Charles Schlaifer, advertising and publicity director, points out that the two releases feature six stars. Betty Grable and Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., in the former, and Cornel Wilde, Linda Darnell, Anne Baxter and Kirk Douglas in the latter.

Items for publicizing the event include special trailers, posters, and lobby displays, as well as publicity for news, radio and house program planting.

Canadian Liaison

(Continued from page 1)

Newman's duties will include the development of stories for the American newsreels and ideas for new shorts to be shot in the Dominion.

Expectations are that more good film material about Canada will appear on American screens and a larger number of features will be photographed in whole or in part in the Dominion as a result of the creation of the new official contact.

Rank Theatre Clubs

(Continued from page 1)

from three to five categories: specially suitable for children over seven; suitable for family audiences; suitable for adults and those between 16 and 18 years of age; suitable for adults only; "horrific."

Debate Is Due

A debate is expected to be provoked in the Council chamber over the recommendations pertaining to Rank's children's shows.

MOTION PICTURE
HERALD
July 24, 1948

"THE HOUSE WAS SWEEPED WITH GALES OF LAUGHTER"
at a prevue of

"TEXAS, BROOKLYN and HEAVEN"

STATEN ISLANDERS HAD FUN WITH NEW GOLDEN COMEDY

Experienced showmen know that the one best test of a motion picture is audience reaction—the purpose for which pictures are made. The rule especially applies in the case of comedy subjects. Projection-room review of such subjects necessarily lacks the important contribution of audience reaction. The following account of an audience preview of a comedy subject is in contrast to the average projection-room reaction to the same subject.—THE EDITOR.

"Texas, Brooklyn and Heaven," a romantic comedy produced by Robert S. Golden and directed by William Castle, was previewed at the Paramount theatre, Staten Island, N. Y., Tuesday night. It is a United Artists release starring Guy Madison and Diana Lynn.

The preview had been announced in advance and the 2,700-seat house was filled with a crowd appearing to be mostly of the younger age groups. The two features on the theatre's regular bill were "Gung Ho" and "Eagle Squadron."

"Texas, Brooklyn and Heaven," although broad slapstick comedy in part, is not the kind of a picture aimed at keeping the audience in stitches through a continuous barrage of cracks and jokes. It leans heavily on situation comedy and generously exploits its complete freedom from reason or logic. The audience caught on to the spirit of things and had a very good time.

It reacted exactly where the producer had meant it to react and missed few of the funny spots. Four or five times during the picture the house was swept with gales of laughter and at other times the audience chuckled with quiet amusement over funny situations and dialogue lines. Although the majority of the patrons stayed through to the end of the triple feature bill, there were some walkouts toward the middle of the show. Laughter and scattered applause greeted the end of the film. Lobby comment was scant. Said one elderly lady: "I thought that last scene was a riot." Male patrons were reserved. That the audience participated actively in the screen proceedings could be gathered from the groans of astonishment and disbelief at the several fantastically contrived scenes.

There were no reaction cards given out at the Paramount, Staten Island. Audience comment from a preview at the Village theatre, Dallas, Texas, runs as follows:

"The most fun I've had in a long time;" "It was a completely idiotic picture, but full of laughs;" "Hope it doesn't ruin the stars' reputation;" "We need more pictures like this one;" "That is just too silly. It was pretty far fetched, but funny in spots;" "Enjoyed it very much;" "Awful. Terrible. Would hate to have to sit through another one like this;" "Wonderful. Very Humorous;" "Fair Class B comedy;" "It's a scream. I really enjoyed it."

**One of the most
unusual items ever
printed in a trade
paper . . . a great
tribute to a peach of
a comedy . . . a wacky
story about wacky
people!**

Golden Productions Presents. GUY MADISON, DIANA LYNN in "TEXAS, BROOKLYN AND HEAVEN"
with JAMES DUNN, MICHAEL CHEKHOV, FLORENCE BATES, LIONEL STANDER.

Screenplay by Lewis Meltzer based on the Saturday Evening Post Story by Barry Benefield.

Produced by Robert S. Golden. Directed by William Castle.

released thru UA

Accurate
Concise
and
Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

FIRST
IN
FILM
NEWS

VOLUME 64, NO. 22

NEW YORK, U. S. A., MONDAY, AUGUST 2, 1948

TEN CENTS

Para. Examines Capital Plans On Divestiture

Complexity of Problem Spurs Early Studies

Paramount executives have begun a study of possible methods of reducing the company's capital structure to compensate for loss of assets and earning power in the event divestiture of its theatre properties ultimately is ordered by the court.

Charting the course, Barney Balaban, Paramount president, told the company's stockholders at their annual meeting last June that "it is our aim to design a program through which any proceeds from the disposition of assets will be applied to a contraction of our capital so that the end structure will be adapted to the assets and earning power left."

While a definite program of contraction must await the final court decision, Paramount executives are studying the problem.

(Continued on page 4)

MPEA Seeks ECA Dollars

WASHINGTON, Aug. 1.—Motion Picture Export Association has submitted the first request for the dollar guaranty of film distribution abroad with the Economic Cooperation Administration, an ECA spokesman disclosed at the weekend. The request was made in behalf of all MPEA companies and would cover Germany for the year beginning last April, it was said.

Under the legislation which approved the ECA convertibility program, a total of \$10,000,000 was promised all information media, including motion pictures.

Davison, Salt Lake, Wins Depinet Drive

Winners of the 11th annual "Ned Depinet Drive" were disclosed at the weekend by Robert Mochrie, RKO Radio distribution vice-president, as follows:

Salt Lake City: Giff Davison, manager, won first place in the top prize group. Oklahoma City: Ralph Williams, manager, took second place, with Denver, Joseph Emerson, man-

(Continued on page 4)

U. S. Government Official Links Theatres to Gin Mills, Poolrooms, Before Congress

Washington, Aug. 1.—Theatres were classed by an Administration spokesman with "pool halls and gin mills" as the type of construction that would be choked off in favor of more essential home-building if President Truman were granted the broad allocation and other control powers he has asked of Congress.

The Administration's point of view was expressed Friday by the President's anti-inflation adviser, Paul Porter, in testimony before the House Banking Committee.

Congress has made it perfectly plain that it does not intend voting these powers.

Porter was being questioned by Rep. Smith (R., O.) as to whether the housing legislation sought by the President was not actually inflationary. Wouldn't the housing bill take materials from other construction, create further shortages, and bid up prices for construction materials, Smith asked.

Porter replied that if the Administration got the allocation and other powers it asked for, "I think you can stop enough gin mills, pool halls and theatres to get the materials for housing."

55 Listed by FC to Adopt Screen Guild Bonus Plan

A Screen Guild Productions release program of 55 new pictures and reissues was announced by Robert L. Lippert, president, for the 1948-1949 season at a sales meeting here at the weekend.

The line-up will consist of "The Mozart Story"; two "Exploitation Specials": "Harpoon" and "I Killed Jesse James"; six "Box Office Winners": "The Return of Wildfire," "Grand Canyon," "Last of the Wild Horses," "Police Force," "The Blackmailers" and "The Ravagers"; eight

(Continued on page 4)

Adoption of a permanent bonus plan by Film Classics, effective Jan. 1, 1949, was announced at the weekend by Joseph Bernhard, president, at the first international sales meeting of the company, held at the Hotel Astor here. Under the bonus system all personnel will share in the company's profits, independent of special sales drives.

B. G. Kranze, general sales manager, listed 26 pictures among those to be released before the end of 1949. They include "Sofia," "Miraculous Journey," "Unknown Island," "Babes

(Continued on page 4)

Shorter Clearance Plans Are Making Headway

MINNEAPOLIS, August 1.—Plans of 20th Century-Fox and Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer to advance availability to 28 days in a number of situations in the Twin Cities is reportedly making progress as wrinkles in the new formula are being ironed out both by the distributors and the theatres involved. And this despite outward opposition and under-the-table pressure from various exhibition quarters.

The Volk Brothers, Nate and Sol Fisher and Marty Lebedoff, of the Nile, Varsity and Homewood, respectively, in Minneapolis, are said to have expressed agreement in principle to go along with the experiment if a majority of the major companies grant the same run.

Warners alone among the majors is said to have agreed to participate

along with 20th-Fox and M-G-M, the former having offered to negotiate terms on "Life With Father," "Two Guys From Texas" and "Key Largo" for the Varsity. Also, RKO Radio and Universal are understood to have submitted the 28-day plan to their home offices. Of the remaining distributors, only United Artists has agreed to negotiate 28-day runs with the designated theatres.

Metro is offering to negotiate terms on "Easter Parade" for the 28-day run houses, with the picture breaking September 19. 20th-Fox will have "Street With No Name" ready for the runs either September 16 or 23, but Volk, of the Nile, is not satisfied with the picture as a kickoff film on such an important change of policy until he can determine its value.

Ascap Appeal Decision Is up To New Counsel

Full - Time Attorneys Are Sought for Case

Decision as to whether or not Ascap will appeal from the New York District Court decision holding most of its theatre licensing activities to be in violation of the anti-trust laws will be left to special counsel to be retained by the society soon to handle the case exclusively, Ascap officials assert.

At a recent meeting the Ascap board of directors approved the retention of special outside counsel to take over all future phases of the case. No choice of counsel has been made yet. Ascap's regular counsel, Schwartz and Frohlich, may continue to act in the case in an advisory capacity, it was indicated, but the aim in retaining outside counsel is to get some one who

(Continued on page 4)

\$4,000,000 Tax Increase

WASHINGTON, August 1.—General admission tax collections in June, reflecting May box-office business, were close to \$4,000,000 above the June 1947 collections, the U. S. Bureau of Internal Revenue reports. This is the first time in three months that 1948 figures exceeded comparable 1947 collections.

The June 1948 figure was \$31,639,479, compared with \$27,829,982 in June 1947.

General admission figures include collections from sports parks, legitimate theatres and other amusements

(Continued on page 4)

Schary and Hughes 'Just Did Not Agree'

BOULDER, Colo., August 1.—Dore Schary, vice-president of M-G-M in charge of production, proved the headliner of the Writer's Conference, now in session here, when he talked to the group Friday. Vacationing near Denver for three weeks, Schary remarked, concerning his leaving the job as RKO production head, that he left "before Hughes and I got to the

(Continued on page 4)

Personal Mention

C HARLES D. PRUTZMAN, Universal vice-president and general counsel, is scheduled to leave here for the Coast on Thursday for a studio visit of several weeks.

HUGH OWEN, Paramount's Eastern and Southern Sales Manager, will return to his desk in the home office today from conferences in Paramount's branches in Atlanta and Jacksonville.

JAMES MULVEY, Samuel Goldwyn Productions president, left New York at the weekend for two weeks in Maine.

HARRY GOLDBERG, Warner Theatres' advertising-publicity director, left here yesterday for the Coast.

LEON BAMBERGER, RKO Radio sales promotion manager, will return here today from a Minnesota vacation.

MAX YOUNGSTEN, Eagle-Lion advertising-publicity vice-president, is in Cincinnati from New York.

H. M. RICHEY, M-G-M exhibitor relations chief, is due back here today from French Lick, Ind.

MILTON S. KUSELL, Selznick Releasing's distribution vice-president, is here from the Coast.

SAM SHAIN, 20th-Fox exhibitor relations director, left for Chicago over the weekend.

Coast Variety to Cite C. P. Skouras Aug. 16

HOLLYWOOD, August 1.—Charles P. Skouras, president of Fox-West Coast and National Theatres, will be presented with the Great Heart Award by the Variety Club of Southern California on August 16 at a banquet in the Ambassador Hotel here, with some 900 civic, governmental, social, scholastic, institutional and industry leaders to be in attendance.

National Variety Clubs president Robert O'Donnell will make the presentation. The Great Heart Award, made this year for the first time, is for "unselfish contributions to community betterment, patriotic endeavors, and leadership in public welfare projects."

\$1,860,000 Loan to France's Producers

The French Assembly has voted a 400,000,000 franc loan (about \$1,860,000) to the French motion-picture industry to help it over its present economic doldrums, according to press dispatches reaching here at the weekend.

The same law also calls for an approximately 20 per cent tax on movie theatre tickets to cover the loan, which must be paid by the end of 1949.

The law planned originally was to call for additional taxes to be imposed on foreign films dubbed in French.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

A UNIQUE and individual attack upon the Federal admission tax is being carefully prepared by E. R. Holtz, Detroit theatre operator and economist (University of Michigan, '25).

Confident that Congress will give serious consideration to changes in the excise tax structure next year, Holtz has begun marshaling facts and figures for presentation to hearing committees and, if his interesting theory eventually is supported by evidence which he now is seeking, his story promises to carry far more weight with Federal legislators than do the customary briefs and prepared statements which exhibition frequently presents at such hearings.

Holtz's theory, in brief, is that the Government is not being realistic, nor alive to the best revenue-producing tax method in maintaining the 20 per cent admission tax in the face of declining theatre attendance.

What he proposes to do is to show the legislators that elimination or reduction of the 20 per cent admission tax is likely to increase theatre attendance and, therefore, corporate profits, to a point at which the Government would derive more revenue from the 38 per cent corporate tax than it could hope to receive from the 20 per cent admission tax.

It is Holtz's theory that each \$1,000,000 of admission tax in today's theatre market costs the Government \$1,900,000 of income tax. His prescription: Remove the admission tax and attendance will climb, swelling corporate profits, taxable at 38 per cent, and thereby increasing the Government's "take."

To back up his arguments, Holtz is seeking the experience of other exhibitors who have been subjected to local taxes recently. He wants to know what percentage of decrease in attendance followed imposition of a local tax, compared with attendance for the previous month or with an equivalent month in the preceding year.

Exhibitors who can furnish such information to Holtz will help bolster what may be a formidable assault on the admission tax next year.

In Hollywood last week Eric Johnston told reporters he had

revised his estimate of 1948 British film earnings in this country downward from the \$7,000,000 he predicted on his return following conclusion of the film tax settlement agreement in Britain last spring to current estimate of less than \$1,000,000.

Few of those in a position to know what British pictures are doing here and what they are likely to do in the immediate future will take issue with Johnston's revised estimate.

The factors which have brought about that lessening of earnings potential of British films here are well known. They began with the hamstringing interpretations of the tax settlement agreement in London which removed much of the incentive for the American industry to push and play all British films sent here in order to add to the \$17,000,000 minimum remittances of the settlement agreement.

Secondly, the British quota, generally viewed as being so impractical and unreasonable on this side as to constitute an affront to the American industry, has caused many American exhibitors who previously were inclined, often against their better judgment, to give British films a trial, to change their minds.

Again, the high British quota accompanied by outright statements from British producers that they would endeavor to satisfy the home market first, rather than meet world market film tastes, put all exhibitors here on notice that the forthcoming product from Britain is not likely to be distinguished by quality. The recently announced government plan to subsidize British production adds to that impression. Good producers don't need subsidies and subsidized production will be only incidentally, or accidentally, box-office production.

A final factor which figures in the lesser earnings possibilities here of British product is consumer resistance because of Britain's record on Palestine.

Add to all of that the fact that patronage for even some good Hollywood films and for many mediocre ones is off here and it becomes evident why the earnings of British films in this market will not approach this year the something more than \$2,000,000 they are estimated to have garnered last year.

Newsreel Parade

T HE special session of Congress marks a newsreel highlight in the current reels. Other items are the grasshopper plague in Argentina, whale hunting, sports and human interest events. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 61—President Truman demands action of Congress in special session. Senator Taft speaks. Canadian ship runs aground. Weapons used by Army demonstrated. Whaling revived. Grasshopper plague in Argentina. Chicago celebrates railroad centennial. Dog show. Skiing. Racing.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 295—Berlin report. Grasshopper plague in South America. Calgary stampede. Rodeo thriller. Ship on reef has amazing escape. Military magic. Horsemanship hurdle test. New cure for hot weather.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 99—Canadian ship crash. Railroad fair in Chicago. West Point goes Hollywood. President calls special session of Congress. Stymie retires. Rodeo.

UNIVERSAL NEWS, No. 165—President Truman calls special session of Congress. Pneumatic weapons demonstrated at Fort Bragg. Grasshopper plague in Argentina. Whale hunting in Canada. Calisthenics. Horse jumping tournament. Calgary stampede.

WARNER PATHE NEWS, No. 100—Congress opens. Fake weapons demonstrated by Army. Palestine in the news. Trygve Lee looks over Paris site of UN meet. British Royal Family attends Earl of Derby wedding. Jet-fighters land in Germany. Calgary rodeo. Great events: Panama Canal.

SOPEG and SPG Ask For New Contracts

United Office and Professional Workers, CIO's film industry locals, the Screen Office and Professional Employees Guild Local 109 and the Screen Publicists Guild Local 114, have sent letters to the companies with whom they have contracts asking them to negotiate new ones.

The SPG contracts will terminate September 26, and the SOPEG contracts on September 27. The unions are in the process of completing their contract proposals and electing negotiating committees.

The contracts affected in SPG are with Columbia, Loew, Paramount, Republic, RKO, 20th Century-Fox, United Artists, Warner and Universal.

The contracts affected in SOPEG are with Columbia, Loew, NSS, Paramount, Republic, RKO, 20th-Fox.

UK Film Financing Blueprint Is Begun

London, Aug. 1—Procedure under which the organizing committee for the \$20,000,000 British Film Finance Corp. will operate was agreed upon at the weekend at a Board of Trade meeting here. James H. Lawrie is chairman of the organizing group.

Details of the committee's course of action were not made public. However, its goal is to establish ways and means whereby BOT president Harold Wilson's plan for financing independent production here can be set in motion.

BUSINESS IS GREAT on the STREET!

NEW YORK

One of the 10 top grossers in 10-year Roxy history!



THE LEAD-OFF BOXOFFICE SENSATION FOR THE SECOND HALF OF '48...

From the company that led all the industry in Boxoffice champions and Variety scoreboard hits the first six months of '48!

LONG RUNS!

5th week! San Francisco!
4th week! Long Beach!
3rd week! Pittsburgh!
Cleveland! Seattle!



HOLDOVERS!

Running apace of record run figures in
DETROIT • CHICAGO • BALTIMORE •
CINCINNATI • PORTLAND • PHOENIX •
SPOKANE • DAYTON • OAKLAND •
ALLENTOWN!



From the files
of the FBI!

THE STREET WITH NO NAME

Starring

MARK STEVENS • RICHARD WIDMARK

with LLOYD NOLAN • BARBARA LAWRENCE

Ed Begley • Donald Buka • Joseph Pevney • John McIntire • Walter Greaza • Howard Smith

Directed by WILLIAM KEIGHLEY • Produced by SAMUEL G. ENGEL

Original Screen Play by Harry Kleiner



20th
CENTURY-FOX

Davison Wins Drive

(Continued from page 1)

ager, third, and Charlotte, Rovy Branon, manager, fourth.

Toronto: Jack Bernstein, manager, won first place in Canada, with Montreal, Murray Devaney, manager, second.

The three group division prize winners, with two winners in each group are as follows: Group one: first, Atlanta, Hubert Lyons, manager; second, Dallas, Sol Sachs, manager; group two: first, Pittsburgh, Dave Silverman, manager; second, Minneapolis, Fay Dressell, manager; group three: first, Sioux Falls, Sherman Fitch, manager; second, Des Moines, Max Rosenblatt, manager.

District managers' prizes: first, Al Kolitz, Rocky Mountain; second, Leo Devaney, Canadian; third, Dave Prince, Southeastern.

Best salesmen: R. Richardson, East Central; Earl Dyson, Prairie; Harry Levinson, Western; Maurice Basse, Southwestern; Morris Anderson, Midwestern; William Canelli, Northeastern; Tom Watson, Southeastern; Herman Silverman, Metropolitan; James Rea, Canada; David Silverman, Eastern.

Home office representatives: first, Frank Duffy; second, Paul Back-Milton Yeoman; third, George Jacoby.

Field supervisors: first, Robert Hickey; second, David Cantor; third, Harry Reiners.

Field exploitation winners: T. B. McCormick, Denver; Ed Terhune, Dallas; William Prager, Washington; Gene Gaudette, Minneapolis; Charles Kinney, Atlanta; Ed Holland, Des Moines; Alan Wieder, Pittsburgh; George Degnon, Toronto; Fred Calvin, Los Angeles; Hugh MacKenzie, Cincinnati; Wally Heim, Chicago; Doug Beck, Philadelphia; Lloyd Muir, Vancouver; Joe Longo, San Francisco.

New Foreign Film Company in N. Y.

Joseph Green, Michael Hyams and Alexander Parkson have formed Gramercy Films, Inc., here. First release will be "Marriage in the Shadows," recently completed in Berlin. It will open at the Little Met in September, with English titles.

Green and Hyams, owners of the Little Met, the Hopkinson, the City and Irving Place theatres, have also acquired for distribution here the Italian film, "The Wandering Jew," and a new Swedish picture, "Waiting Room for Death," which they will distribute through their own organization, Globe Film Distributors.

Tax Increase

(Continued from page 1)

as well as motion picture theatres, but do not include night club taxes and taxes on various brokers' sales and overcharges. June collections for all of these categories amounted to \$36,262,679, compared with \$32,417,990 last year.

Biggest Campaign Ever for 'Joan'

S. Barret McCormick, national director of advertising for RKO Radio, reports that the national campaign for "Joan of Arc" will be "the biggest effort ever made to presell a motion picture to the world." There will, in fact, be two campaigns. The preselling schedule, just starting, and the general release campaign to follow.

Form E-L Club

ALBANY, N. Y., Aug. 1. — Eagle Lion Family Club, Inc., E-L home office employees group, has been chartered here.

WB Latin Chiefs Meet Here Today

Wolfe Cohen, vice-president of Warner International, will preside at a two-week sales meeting of Warner Latin American heads starting today at the company's home office. Arriving over the weekend for the meetings were Ary Lima from Rio de Janeiro, Peter Colli from Havana and Mike Sokol, general manager of Mexico.

In addition to Cohen, home office executives attending will be: Karl Macdonald, vice-president of Warner International; John J. Glynn, vice-president and treasurer; Gerry Keyser, in charge of foreign publicity and advertising, and John Maraio of the contract department.

FC Bonus Plan

(Continued from page 1)

in Toyland," "Return to Treasure Island," "Daughter of Ramona," "Fatima," "Pocahontas," "Hellfire," "Bar Mothers," "Shark Man," "Appointment for Murder," "Hellgate," "Strange Case of Malcolm Craig," "God's Children," "Florentine Chest," "Capri Magic," "Gay Street," "Saturday's Odds," "Anyone Can Enter," "Woman of One Hundred Faces," "The Judge," an untitled State Department story and three Inner Sanctum mysteries.

An increase of 70 per cent in territorial business since mid-February was reported by Kranze.

Eight promotions were announced by Kranze, as follows: Jake Lutzer, from Dallas exchange manager to Southern division manager; Jules K. Chapman, from assistant general manager to assistant general sales manager; Ralph Peckham, from Atlanta branch manager to be Lutzer's successor; George Lefko, from Indianapolis branch manager to Detroit manager; John McKenna, from New York salesman to head of the same office; Louis Bernhard, formerly salesman in St. Louis and New Haven, to head of the home office playdate and liquidation department; Ed Spiers, from branch manager of the Milwaukee exchange to branch manager of the Chicago exchange; Bob Bernhard, from salesman in the New York exchange to assistant to David Horne, foreign sales manager.

Besides Bernhard and Kranze, speakers at the meeting included Jules K. Chapman; Al Zimbalist, advertising-publicity head; Eugene Arnstein, executive assistant treasurer; David Horne; Ted Birnbaum, assistant to Kranze; Herbert S. Stern, general counsel; Albert Mannheimer, head of exchange operations, and William Markert, print department head.

Para. Examines

(Continued from page 1)

cision on theatre holdings, a Paramount spokesman pointed to the complexities involved in any financial program of the type as reason for the present study of systems of shrinking capitalization.

One of many programs in mind, it was said, would be the surrender to the company of half of the outstanding common shares by holders who, in turn, would receive preferred securities of equal value. These would be redeemable on call, that is, when Paramount is forced to sell theatres, and with the extent of the redemption being commensurate with the loss of earning power of theatres divested.

Ascap Appeal

(Continued from page 1)

can give full time and exclusive attention to the case.

All future conduct of the case, as well as a decision on an appeal, will be left to the special counsel, Ascap officials said.

An order giving effect to Judge Vincent Leibell's decision in the case against Ascap brought by members of the Independent Theatre Owners of New York is not expected to be entered by the court before September. Indications are that Ascap will apply for a stay of judgment immediately thereafter and the society will have 90 days from the date of entry of the order in which to take an appeal to the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals here.

Thus, Ascap has until approximately the end of the year in which to make its decision on an appeal.

If the society decides to appeal, the Circuit Court might decide the case by next summer and appeals could be taken to the U. S. Supreme Court thereafter. Final disposition of the case, therefore, could be at least 18 months away and, meanwhile, no change in Ascap's theatre licensing procedure would occur, providing, of course, the lower court's judgment is stayed.

Sacks Will Produce, Distribute for Video

DALLAS, Aug. 1.—Sack Television Enterprises has been formed here by the Sack brothers, Alfred, Lester and Julius M. Sack, to operate in the television film field on a long-range program of production and distribution. Julius Sack, former sales promotion manager for Schenley distilleries and one-time theater executive, has joined the new venture with his brothers who have operated Sack Amusement Enterprises since 1919. Julius will be sales manager and Eastern head. Robert M. Moscow will continue as production manager with headquarters in Dallas.

Schary and Hughes

(Continued from page 1)

point of being mad at each other." He emphasized, however, that they parted good friends. Schary said the reason for the parting was that he and Hughes "just did not agree on basic things at the studio."

Schary discussed "Hollywood and the Writer" and he left the impression that any writer who goes to Hollywood with something good would receive mighty fine pay in return.

Schary revealed that more than \$6,500,000 was paid for stories by Hollywood in 1946, with salaries running from junior writers at \$75 to others at \$7,500 a week. But he pointed out that the latter figure is achieved infrequently, and not over a long period.

In hitting at criticism of Hollywood Schary said, "I believe that anyone who has worked hard and long in Hollywood has a right to criticize it. I believe people who have made a contribution have a right to demand further reforms and changes in attitudes and technique, but people who come out to take money and dine in the best restaurants and live in the peripheral social life of Hollywood and then damn it, these people I have no patience with and they have no right to damn."

Young in Rosen Post With Fabian-Hellman

ALBANY, N. Y., Aug. 1. — Leo Rosen has resigned as assistant general manager of Fabian-Hellman Drive-in Theatres. Leo Young, formerly RKO exploiter in Buffalo, Albany, Philadelphia and other cities and a district manager with Snider circuit in Maine, succeeds him.

Rosen quit as manager of Warners' Strand in March, 1947, after 19 years with that circuit to go to Fabian-Hellman. He enters a local hospital tomorrow for an operation.

Screen Guild

(Continued from page 1)

"Showman's Group": "The Prairie," "SOS Submarine," "Shep Comes Home," "Jungle Goddess," "Redwood Empire," "Sky Liner," "The Return of the Saint" and "City Hospital"; eight "Anniversary Group": "Rimfire," "Police Woman," "The Great Truck Mystery," "Trail's End," "No Escape," "The Woman in Black," and two untitled films; Six Lash La Rue westerns; two "specials": "Son of Jesse James" and "Son of Billy the Kid"; four "Regulars," to be announced; six "Proven Pictures": "Runaway Daughter," "King of the Turf," "Little Annie Rooney," "Duke of West Point," "That's My Boy" and "Flirting With Fate"; 12 Hopalong Cassidy.

8 Westerns to Savini

R. M. Savini, president of Astor Pictures, has signed a reissue distribution deal for eight "Wild Bill" Elliott Western features. The contract, covering both 35mm. and 16mm. rights, is for seven years.



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"the Hollywood"

United's DC-6

Mainliner 300

onestop flight

Leave New York 12:15 pm, arrive in Los Angeles at 8:25 pm.

Fares are surprisingly low. Flights operate on Standard time.

**UNITED
AIR LINES**

NEW YORK & BROOKLYN: Call Murray Hill 2-7300.

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IN
FILM
NEWS

64. NO. 23

NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, AUGUST 3, 1948

TEN CENTS

Theatre Takes Showing Some Improvement

**Weekly Average Rose to
\$14,210 During June**

Theatre grosses showed some improvement during June, according to reports on some 170 key situations received from MOTION PICTURE DAILY correspondents in the field. Although it was of very modest proportions, the improvement pointed to the possibility that theatre business generally would continue to hold its own through the summer.

Weekly average gross per theatre in June rose to \$14,210, from the previous month's \$14,163, which was the low point of this year. Weekly average for June, 1947, was \$15,279.

"Homecoming" took the box-office lead. Tied for second place, but considerably behind the leader, were "The Pirate" and "The Fuller Brush Man." Following closely in third spot was "Arch of Triumph."

Other films which appeared frequently (Continued on page 5)

Milder and Payette, WB Officials, Die

Death on Sunday took two prominent Warner executives: Max Milder, in England, after a long illness, and John J. Payette, of heart and kidney ailments, in Washington.

Milder resigned as Warner managing director in England last month, but remained as managing director of Associated British Pictures Corp., a large interest in which is owned by Warners. He had been in the industry 36 years, the last 17 of them in the top Warner post in England. C. J. Latta, formerly Albany zone manager (Continued on page 4)

P. A. Powers, Film Veteran, Dies at 79

Funeral services for P. A. Powers, industry veteran who died of coronary thrombosis at Doctors Hospital here late on Friday, were scheduled to be held today in Buffalo. Burial is to be in his native upstate village of Limestone. Powers was 79.

Survivors are an adopted daughter. (Continued on page 4)

Illinois Theatre May Sue to Get Bidding

CHICAGO, August 2.—Weldon Allen, operator of the 390-seat Grove theatre, at Galesburg, Ill., has retained attorney Seymour Simon, former assistant U. S. Attorney General, to file an action against major distributors to enforce his right to competitive bidding and for past damages, which may run over \$100,000.

Prior to 1947, Allen operated the Grove on a second-run policy, but since has alternated with first-run United Artists product and second-run product. Although competing against houses operated by Great States, Allen claims that by playing extended runs he can pay the equivalent or higher film rental than competing houses. On a second-run, the Grove grosses from \$600 to \$700 a week, while first-run grosses have reached \$2,500. His fight against affiliated circuit competition is told in *Fortune Magazine* for August, in which he disclosed that he had considered court action.

Canadian Theatres Get 2½% Tax Rebate

TORONTO, August 2.—Ontario theatres gained two concessions from the provincial government in connection with the 20 per cent amusement tax which was effected last April. Because of vigorous complaints from exhibitors throughout the province the government has announced the adoption of a simplified form of tax reports to accompany monthly remittances to the Treasury Department, and has granted a commission of 2½ per cent on tax payments to theatres for acting as collecting agency, retroactive to last spring.

Germany's First-Runs Devastated, Says Maas

Continue Music Tax, Okla. Group Urges

OKLAHOMA CITY, August 2.—Theatre Owners of Oklahoma, in an organizational bulletin, expresses the opinion that the only ultimate effect of the Ascap injunction in New York probably will be a new method of paying for music, and advises its members not to halt payments for music at this time.

The organization expressed doubt as to whether the Ascap ruling is to be considered a victory for exhibitors, although it is so heralded by some.

AFM-Producers Meet In Chicago Aug. 9

Hollywood, August 2.—Producers and their labor representatives will open new contract negotiations with James C. Petrillo, American Federation of Musicians president, in Chicago on August 9, for pacts for studio musicians.

The AFM board of directors is also scheduled to hold its meeting in Chicago starting on the same date.

Balaban Heads TOA Convention Group

Ted R. Gamble, president of the Theatre Owners of America, has appointed John Balaban, secretary-treasurer of Balaban and Katz, Chicago, as general chairman, and Edward G. Zorn, president of the United Theatre Owners of Illinois, vice-chairman, of the TOA convention committee. The convention will be held at the Drake Hotel, Chicago, September 24-25, with some preliminary meetings on September 23.

Stanley W. Prenosil, assistant to Gael Sullivan, executive director of the TOA, has left here for Chicago to confer with Balaban and Zorn on convention plans and the setting up of convention committees.

"Many small exhibitors have already written for reservations, and most of the circuit heads on the association's membership list also have signified their intention to attend," said the TOA.

Gamble, Robert W. Coyne, TOA executive and Sullivan, are now lining up speakers.

RKO Weighing Purchase of Music Rights

**Plan Said to Hinge on
Result of Ascap Appeal**

Purchase of performing as well as recording rights to musical compositions as a future policy is understood to be under consideration by RKO Radio as result of the Federal Court decision finding Ascap guilty of violating the anti-trust laws in the action brought against the society by 164 members of the Independent Theatre Owners Association of New York. Adoption of the policy is said to be contingent upon the final outcome of the case on appeal.

The opinion of Judge Vincent L. Leibell places RKO Radio in a different position than other members of the "Big Five" in that the company exercises no interest in the music publishing field.

A basis for the company's proposed policy of buying both rights to music is found in the court's ruling in the case. In his decision Judge Leibell enjoined Ascap from collecting music performing rights fees from exhibitors and suggested that the music copy-

(Continued on page 2)

20th-Fox Files for N.Y. Video Permit

WASHINGTON, August 2.—Twentieth Century-Fox today asked the Federal Communications Commission for permission to operate an experimental television station in New York. Fox, which has applications pending for five commercial video stations, said the New York station would be used to test television transmitters in very high frequencies for possible eventual use in theatre television.

Brazil Suspends All Film Price Controls

Central Price Commission order No. 78 suspending all price controls on both theatre admissions and film rentals throughout Brazil is now in effect, according to a cablegram received yesterday from Rio de Janeiro by the Motion Picture Association of America.

The order provides that the suspension will continue in effect until a

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued on page 5)

Personal Mention

Y. FRANK FREEMAN, Paramount vice-president in charge of studio operations, arrived here yesterday from Hollywood. He will remain in New York for several weeks.

WILLIAM A. SCULLY, Universal-International vice-president and general sales manager, and **MAURICE BERGMAN**, Eastern advertising-publicity manager, will leave here by plane Friday for the Coast.

JOHN H. RUGGE, assistant to Warner personnel director **RALPH W. BUDD**, and **MRS. RUGGE** have become parents of a son, **JOHN H., JR.**, born on Saturday at Hackensack Hospital, N. J.

CAROL REED, director, and **GRHAM GREENE**, author, are due here tomorrow from England en route to Hollywood for conferences with **DAVID O. SELZNICK**.

GEORGE SPIRES of the *Motion Picture Herald* staff and **MRS. SPIRES** have become parents of a son, born Sunday at Bay Ridge Hospital, Brooklyn.

TED R. GAMBLE, head of Monarch Theatres and president of Theatre Owners of America, is expected here August 11 from his home in Portland, Ore.

MORT BLUMENSTOCK, Warner advertising-publicity vice-president, will fly to San Antonio today from New York.

STEVE BROIDY, Allied Artists-Monogram president, arrived on the Coast yesterday after six weeks in New York.

FRED MEYERS, Universal-International Eastern division sales manager, is due back here tomorrow from Boston.

MAX E. YOUNGSTINE, Eagle-Lion advertising-publicity vice-president, has arrived in Cincinnati.

GEORGE SUSSMAN of Astor Pictures' Pamo Film Exchange, Buffalo, was in New York last weekend.

HUGH OWEN, Paramount home office sales executive, is in Jacksonville, Fla.

JOSEPH BURSTYN of Mayer and Burstyn has left here for a European tour.

Ross McLean to England

OTTAWA, August 2.—**Ross McLean**, commissioner of the Canadian Film Board, has left here for England and the Continent to promote the distribution of Canadian government films. He will confer with his former chief, **John Grierson** in England. Grierson is producing documentaries for the British government and an interchange of prints with Canada is promised.

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Olympics Coverage Dispute Resolved

LONDON, August 2.—Settlement of the controversy over J. Arthur Rank's deal with the 14th Olympiad committee for exclusive film rights to the festival under way here has been resolved by reserving for Rank exclusiveness only as to the special Technicolor film, "XIVth Olympiad—The Glory of Sport," which is being prepared under the direction of Castleton Knight. Rank paid £25,000 (\$100,000) for the film rights.

All newsreels will be represented in the arrangements, each having paid Rank £2,000 (\$8,000). Their black-and-white "takes" will go into a common pool available to each of the reels. Laboratory resources also have been pooled.

Technicolor is reportedly supplying Rank with 800,000 feet of negative along with 19 specially adapted cameras. The Olympiad will finish August 14. The film will be given its London screening on September 2.

Meanwhile, British Broadcasting has been training all of its manpower and equipment at Wembley for television coverage of hitherto untried dimensions. BBC, hoping to score a triumph over the newsreels, is putting its greatest reliance on its new C.P.S. Emitron cameras specially designed and made for it by Electrical and Musical Industries. Chief merit of the cameras, according to BBC experts, is that a minimum amount of light is needed in their operation.

MPEA Board Meets On French Proposal

Re-negotiation of the Blum-Byrnes film accord, now current in Paris, was taken up by the board of directors of the Motion Picture Export Association at a meeting here yesterday. This statement was issued after the session:

"After receiving additional reports by telephone from Paris and after considering the various aspects of the negotiations, the board of the MPEA agreed that the latest proposal from Paris should be referred to Eric A. Johnston, MPEA president, now on the Pacific Coast."

Gerald Mayer, manager of the international division of the Motion Picture Association, is now in Paris acting as technical adviser to U. S. State Department officials dealing with the French. The film companies reportedly have \$9,000,000 in blocked currency now in France.

O'Brien Will Confer With Eric Johnston

LONDON, August 2.—**Tom O'Brien**, general secretary of the National Association of Theatrical and Kine Employees will leave for New York on the S. S. *Queen Mary* on August 7. While the ostensible purpose of the trip is to attend the forthcoming international convention of the IATSE, he declares privately that he hopes to have "highly important conversations" in Washington with **Eric Johnston**, Motion Picture Association of America president.

Canada Removes 25% Projector Tax

Toronto, August 2.—Canadian theatre companies secured relief in a decision effective immediately by the Dominion government to remove the 25 per cent austerity excise tax on a long list of articles including film projectors, oil burners, refrigeration units, musical instruments and electrical goods.

The tax was reduced from 25 to 10 per cent on radios, tubes and record players.

Personal Touch in Europe Sales Urged

Importance of the personal approach in the independent producer's effort to find a market for his product in Europe was stressed here yesterday by **Frederick Brisson** of Independent Artists following his return from a two-month European visit.

Brisson said that if a producer has the right product for European tastes and is willing to offer it for sale at a reasonable price he can create a market for himself by working on the scene with his representatives and dealing with exhibitors personally.

Brisson asserted that frozen funds in Europe could encourage production by American producers there to the betterment of world relations. He said that while he was in Europe the suggestion was made that all independents put their frozen funds into a pool into which they could dip for European production.

On his trip Brisson appointed **David E. Griffith** and **Raoul Levy** his company's representatives in London and Paris, respectively.

New Censorship Code For Mexican Industry

MEXICO CITY, August 2.—A new film censorship code is being written by **Antonio Castro Leal**, chief censor who also heads the National Cinematographic Commission, and **Celestino Gorostiza**, dramatist and scenarist. The code will be presented to producers and exhibitors and such organizations as the Mexican Legion of Decency for their opinions which will be incorporated in the final draft of the code that will go to the Ministry of the Interior, principal government department with jurisdiction over censorship.

Brazil Suspends

(Continued from page 1)

final decision has been handed down on the application of American motion picture companies for judicial relief.

The American companies have instructed their branches to resume normal operations in Brazil.

Joaquin Rickard, MPAA representative in South America, will leave Rio by plane tomorrow for New York.

WB Splits Up Its Latin Territory

Wolfe Cohen, vice-president of Warner International, realigned the company's sales supervisory staff at the opening session yesterday of a two-week sales meeting of Latin American heads in the home office.

The entire territory will be divided into three divisions, Atlantic, Pacific and Caribbean, with a division manager in charge of each.

Ary Lima will be district manager for the Atlantic division; **Peter Colli** will be manager of the Caribbean division. New appointee, **James V. O'Gara**, until recently Eastern sales manager for Republic, has been named manager of the Pacific division.

RKO Weighing

(Continued from page 1)

right owner might negotiate directly with the producer as an alternative to the present system of having exhibitors pay music fees to the society.

The plan is in such a nebulous state at the moment that RKO officials were unable to say how much it would cost to acquire the performing rights to musical compositions from copyright owners. They could not even conjecture whether it would cost the exhibitor more or less than his license fees under his Ascap contract.

NEW YORK THEATRES

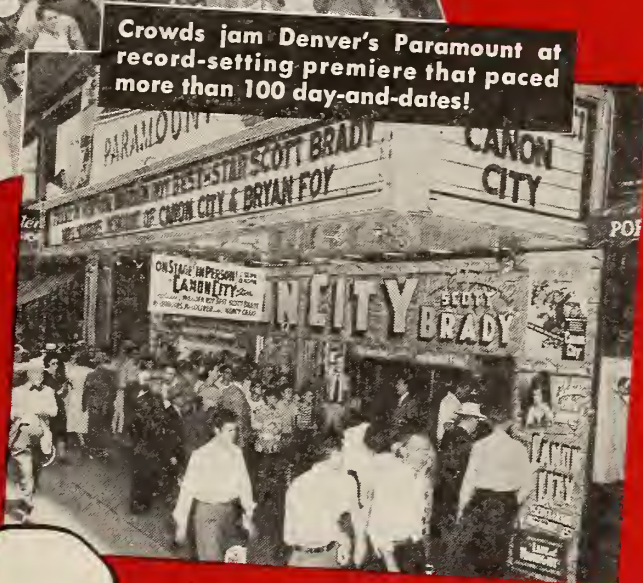
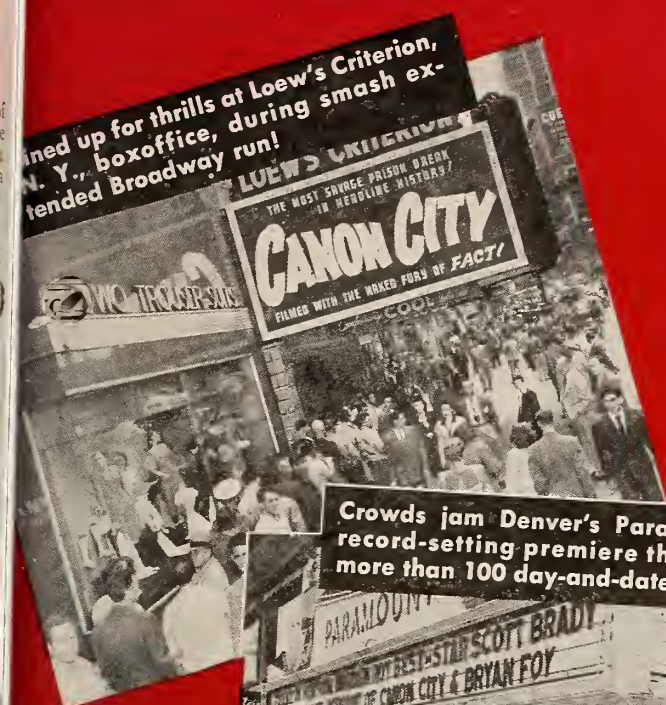
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Rockefeller Center
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JOHN LUND
"A Foreign Affair"
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top grossers
of the year!

"Better than 'Brute Force,' 'Naked City' and 'The Killers!'"
—N. Y. Enquirer

"A hay maker among hard-hitting mellers!"
—Walter Winchell

"3 Bells! Shoots and punches its way to position among the best action films of the year!"
—Jimmie Fidler

"One of most stirring pictures ever made!"
—Alton Cook, N. Y. World-Telegram

"More exciting than a headline... has 'Brute Force' wallop!"
—Erskine Johnson, National Columnist

"Eagle Lion has a winner!"
—Variety

"'Canon City' brilliant!"
—Hollywood Reporter

"Plenty of opportunities to cash in!"
—The Exhibitor



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Withhold Payments to Ascap, Advises NCA

Minneapolis, August 2.—North Central Allied urges independent exhibitors to sign no more contracts with Ascap or to "pay them any money," in a bulletin issued by Stanley Kane, executive director.

The NCA director warned that while Ascap is down "it will not go out without a lot of bluster and fight," and said exhibitors should guard against being influenced by Ascap action.

Contrariwise, the Theatre Owners of America, among others, warns exhibitors that non-payment is a violation of Federal law until such time as Ascap is finally enjoined.

WB Must Answer KB Suit by August 16

WASHINGTON, August 2.—Judge Edward M. Curran today turned down a request of Warner Brothers that it be given until September 30 to answer a suit by K-B Amusement Co. to force Warner out of the jointly-owned MacArthur Theatre. Curran said the September request was unreasonably long, and gave Warner two weeks, until August 16, to answer.

KATO Convention Is Set for Oct. 27-28

FALLS CITY, Ky., August 2.—The convention committee of the Kentucky Association of Theatre Owners met here to formulate plans for the annual KATO convention, set for Oct. 27th-28, in Louisville's Seelbach Hotel.

Committee members include Guthrie F. Crowe, Henry J. Stiles, Mrs. Nell Borden, John T. Edmunds, Jr., E. L. Ornstein, C. D. Arnold and Gene Lutes.

N. J. Allied Meet

Members of Allied of New Jersey will meet here next Monday to hear George Gold, legislative chairman. Gold also will be given final instructions before he meets with Assemblymen Reiffen, Walter H. Jones and Bernard Vogel, members of the committee studying bingo legislation.

Four Conventions in One

CHICAGO, August 2.—The Midwest Forum, Educational Film Library Association, Film Council of America, and National Audio-Visual Dealers Association will hold their combined conventions at the Sherman Hotel here August 6-11.

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Review

"Rachel and the Stranger"

(RKO Radio)

THE ability of Loretta Young, Robert Mitchum and William Holden to sell tickets must be relied upon to attract substantial support to "Rachel and the Stranger." The film about the Ohio frontier early in the 1800's is interesting in point of locale and background as well as story and performance. But it lacks the driving emotional force required to send it skyrocketing toward a concentrated climax despite the closing sequence dealing with an Indian attack on the Holden homestead.

In the face of its historic period when the settlers were courageously extending their boundaries Westward from the Eastern seaboard and when the going certainly was rugged and primitive, the treatment fails to sustain the bite which presumably was inherent in the basic material—a story by Howard Fast titled "Rachel."

Holden laboriously carving a home out of the wilderness, loses his wife and comes to realize shortly after her death his need for a woman to raise his young son, Gary Gray. Loretta Young, bondwoman, is the only likely prospect at the stockade. He buys her, but also marries her at the preacher's insistence. The main stream of the story deals with the relationship of father, son and now the new wife and how Miss Young, patient and plodding, eventually wins Holden's respect and then his love. The conflict to these ends is set up by Holden and the boy and is hastened toward surrender by the friendly and sly campaign launched by Mitchum, woodsman and Indian scout who presumably falls in love with Miss Young himself.

"Rachel and the Stranger" has flavor. It appears to be an authentic reflection of its period. Yet while it is homey, it does not hum. Waldo Salt prepared the screenplay for producer Richard H. Berger whose director was Norman Foster. Jack J. Gross served as executive producer. The six musical numbers, with an air of genuine Americana, were written by Roy Webb and Waldo Scott.

Running time 93 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, October 2.

RED KANN

P. A. Powers

(Continued from page 1)

Mrs. Roscoe M. George, San Fernando, Cal., and a sister, Mary Ellen Powers of Buffalo.

Powers, familiarly known among older persons in the industry as "Pat," had been intermittently active in the industry for some 35 years. He was one of the organizers of Universal Film Manufacturing Co., and at one time was head of Film Booking Offices of America, a predecessor company to RKO. He played a part in introducing "Mickey Mouse" and "Silly Symphony" cartoons. He developed Powers Cinephone, one of the early sound recording and reproducing devices.

He was formerly president of Powers Film Products Co. of Rochester, N. Y., which he organized to compete in the film raw stock market. He was treasurer of The National Association of the Motion Picture Industry, early industry trade association.

In recent years he developed a country club resort at Westport, Conn., which he recently disposed of. He had been living at the Metropolitan Club here and maintained a Connecticut country home.

Kearney Rites Today; Burial in Vermont

Funeral services for Alexander (Dick) Kearney, 69, assistant general manager of the M. A. Shea Circuit, will be held in the Blessed Sacrament Roman Catholic Church here this morning. Interment will be in Ludlow, Vt. Kearney died of leukemia at the Medical Arts Hospital on Saturday after a long illness.

Surviving Shea is the widow, Sara.

Arthur Fisher Dead

Arthur Fisher, head of the talent booking agency bearing his name, died here on Friday. His survivors include the widow, Florence; a daughter, Frances, and a son, Trueman.

Milder and Payette

(Continued from page 1)

ager for Warners, was assigned to a theatre post in London when illness forced Milder to relinquish some of his duties last month.

His widow, Madeline, survives.

Payette, general zone manager of Warner Theatres in the Washington territory, was a founder and first barker of Variety Tent No. 11 there. He was 56. He had been associated with the industry since 1904, holding various theatre posts, leading to his appointment as general manager of the 45 Warner houses in the District of Columbia, Maryland, Virginia and part of Pennsylvania.

Services for Payette are to be held at his Washington home and at the Sacred Heart Church, also Washington, tomorrow at 10 A.M. His survivors include the widow, Dorothy, and four children.

Pallbearers, all of whom were associated with Payette at the Warner office here, will be George A. Crouch, Frank La Falce, Harry E. Lohmeyer, Charles V. Grimes, J. Alton Pratt and Louis F. Ribnitzki.

Honorary pallbearers are: Harry Kalmine, W. Stuart McDonald, Joseph Bernard, Carter Barron, Nelson B. Bell, Rudy Berger, W. F. Beiersdorf, Ralph Binns, A. Julian Brylawski, Jay Carmody, Jake Flax, Robert J. Folliard, J. Edward Fontaine, Sam Galanty, Nat Glasser, Frank Harman, Garfield Kass, C. E. McGowan, Joseph P. Morgan, I. J. Rappaport, Robert Smeltzer and L. T. Souder.

W. J. McDonald, 78

BOSTON, August 2.—William J. McDonald, 78, well-known real estate man and theatre owner, died today. He was connected with the late Nathan H. Gordon as a partner and built the Metropolitan Theatre in Boston.

Harry Martin, 27

CHICAGO, August 2.—Harry Martin, 27, manager of the Atom Theatre, Chicago, operated by the Gallos Circuit, was found dead on Thursday at Calumet Park.

Coast to Explore Retirement Plans

Hollywood, August 2.—Roy Brewer, IATSE international representative, disclosed here at the weekend that the union's pension committee which has been working on a retirement plan for studio craftsmen will conduct exploratory conferences with a producer committee on the subject pending the return here of "IA" president Richard F. Walsh.

Hartley Says Film Job Offered Him

WASHINGTON, August 2.—House Labor Committee Chairman Hartley, who is retiring at the end of this year, admitted he has been approached to act as legislative representative of a major motion picture organization.

Hartley said he had received an informal offer from an industry official, but refused to name him. Asked whether the job involved representing exhibitors or distributors, the New Jersey Republican said it was his impression that if he accepted, he would "represent the industry as a whole."

He did not accept nor turn down the bid, Hartley said, but outlined certain conditions for taking the job. "I'm not getting too excited until a more formal offer is made," he declared.

Motion Picture Association of America officials claim they have made Hartley no offer.

SDG, Majors Await Ruling, Halt Talks

HOLLYWOOD, August 2.—Screen Directors Guild and major producers today announced postponement of contract negotiations for assistant directors pending the outcome of a petition by both parties for a job evaluation survey by the U. S. Department of Labor to determine whether the assistant directors are to be exempted from the Fair Labor Standards Act. Exemption is sought in order to secure similar conditions for first and second assistants.

Extras' Pact Extended

HOLLYWOOD, August 2.—Major studios and the Screen Extras Guild have agreed to extend their contract, which expired Saturday night, 30 days to permit conclusion of negotiations now in progress.

Mrs. Stanley Williams, 58

TORONTO, August 2.—The death has occurred at her home in Cornwall, Ont., of Mrs. Stanley G. Williams, 58, wife of the manager of the Capitol Theatre there and a member of a prominent theatre family. She was the daughter of the late James Whitham who opened the first theatre in Cornwall.

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Three Openings Lift NY 1st-run Grosses

Continuing heat wave is less severe on New York first-runs this week. Holdover business declined only normally and three openings brightened the overall picture considerably. Broadway theatremen credit the Lions International convention with an assist. It brought 25,000 members and families to town.

The stage version of the "Stop the Music" radio show has stirred box-office commotion aplenty at the Capitol where "On an Island with You" is on the screen. The combination figures to take \$103,000 in its first week.

Saturday Night Price Up at Astor

"The Babe Ruth Story" is scoring very well at the Astor where \$38,000 is indicated for its initial week. The house charged \$1.80, up from \$1.50, from 7:30 to 10:30 on Saturday evening and intends to repeat the boost on future Saturdays until too much resistance is felt.

"Abbott and Costello Meet Frankenstein" is going beyond expectations in drawing power at the Criterion. First week's gross is estimated at \$42,000, the best business the house has had in several months. About \$12,000 is likely for the first week of "Brute Force" and "The Killers," both reissues, at the Winter Garden; this is fair enough.

"Street with No Name" with an ice revue and Cab Calloway on stage should complete its third and final week at the Roxy in the neighborhood of \$98,000, which is very strong, after drawing \$107,000 in a second week. "Walls of Jericho" bows tomorrow. "Emperor Waltz will leave the Music Hall tomorrow night after seven weeks to make way for "Date with Judy." "Waltz" took \$71,000 Thursday through Sunday, pointing to \$115,000, a good gross for the final seven days. "Easter Parade" is still strong at the State with \$45,000 expected for the fifth week.

\$72,000 Seen for 'Key Largo'

At the Strand, "Key Largo," teamed with Count Basie and Billie Holiday on stage, is still grossing top money. The third week's gross should hit \$72,000. "A Foreign Affair," with Jo Stafford in person, is down to \$53,000 in a fifth and final week at the Paramount, less a half day. "Beyond Glory" will open tonight with 300 West Point cadets scheduled to attend. The second week of "So Evil My Love" at the Rivoli is fairly healthy at \$25,000. "Four Faces West" opens today at the Globe, replacing "Deep Waters," which was weak with \$7,500 for five days of a second week.

"Return of the Badmen" will make its debut at the Mayfair tomorrow, following "Time of Your Life" which will finish its 10th and final week, less one day, at about \$9,000, also fair.

Censors in Chicago Reject Two Films

CHICAGO, August 2.—The local Censor Board rejected two pictures last month: "Body Beautiful," (Roadshow Attractions), and "Betrayed," (Michenau). Two were classified for adults only, "Blonde Ice," (Film Classics) and "The King's Jester" (Italian). The board looked at 86 pictures and made 30 cuts. Simultaneously, Roy G. Harris, 67, retired after 36 years as police censorship board clerk.

Theatre Takes Improving

(Continued from page 1)

quently as box-office leaders were "Silver River," "The Emperor Waltz," "On Our Merry Way," "Give My Regards to Broadway" and "The Best Years of Our Lives."

Following with better-than-average grosses from time to time were: "I Remember Mama," "The Sainted Sisters," "The Bride Goes Wild," "Berlin Express," "The Outlaw," "Green Grass of Wyoming," "All My Sons," "The Lady from Shanghai," "Mourning Becomes Electra," "To the Ends of the Earth," "The Iron Curtain," "Anna Karenina."

Also, "Duel in the Sun," "Another Part of the Forest," "Love from a

Stranger," "Three Daring Daughters," "Sitting Pretty," "The Naked City," "Fury at Furnace Creek," "Hazard," "Miracle of the Bells," "Fanny," "The Big Clock," "Letter from an Unknown Woman," "Raw Deal," "Call Northside 777," "Bring 'em Back Alive," "Coroner Creek," "On an Island with You," "Paradine Case," "Winter Meeting," "The Noose Hangs High," "Romance on the High Seas," "The Street with No Name," "Fighting Father Dunne" and "Tarzan and the Mermaids."

Composite key city box-office reports for 1948 to date, compared with corresponding weeks of 1947, follow:

1948 Week Ending	No. of Theatres	Total Gross	Average Per Theatre
Jan. 2-3	179	\$3,406,600	\$19,031
Jan. 9-10	168	3,112,700	18,528
Jan. 16-17	168	2,473,300	14,722
Jan. 23-24	166	2,419,000	14,572
Jan. 30-31	166	2,341,900	14,108
Feb. 6-7	167	2,537,800	15,196
Feb. 13-14	166	2,381,500	14,546
Feb. 20-21	164	2,316,500	14,125
Feb. 27-28	167	2,734,100	16,372
Mar. 5-6	165	2,372,700	14,380
Mar. 12-13	165	2,441,800	14,799
Mar. 19-20	175	2,626,800	15,010
Mar. 26-27	162	2,356,800	14,548
April 2-3	171	2,953,500	17,272
April 9-10	169	2,740,000	16,213
April 16-17	175	2,493,600	14,249
April 23-24	167	2,284,000	13,677
April 30-May 1	159	2,232,300	14,040
May 7-8	167	2,416,500	14,470
May 14-15	167	2,301,200	13,780
May 21-22	149	2,118,300	14,217
May 28-29	158	2,241,100	14,184
June 4-5	166	2,577,400	15,527
June 11-12	172	2,287,800	13,301
June 18-19	176	2,340,300	13,297
June 25-26	170	2,396,500	14,097
July 2-3	167	2,476,300	14,828

1947 Week Ending	No. of Theatres	Total Gross	Average Per Theatre
Jan. 3-4	167	\$3,678,100	\$22,024
Jan. 10-11	173	3,363,200	19,400
Jan. 17-18	173	3,007,300	17,383
Jan. 24-25	176	3,043,700	17,294
Jan. 31-Feb. 1	181	2,293,600	12,697
Feb. 7-8	177	3,089,600	17,495
Feb. 14-15	177	2,767,900	15,638
Feb. 21-22	182	3,042,700	16,718
Feb. 28-Mar. 1	166	2,800,300	16,869
Mar. 7-8	178	2,906,400	16,328
Mar. 14-15	174	2,890,300	16,610
Mar. 21-22	173	2,922,900	16,895
Mar. 28-29	178	3,069,500	17,245
April 4-5	179	2,838,800	15,859
April 11-12	184	2,239,500	12,170
April 18-19	177	2,973,400	16,798
April 25-26	183	2,917,900	15,945
May 2-3	177	2,699,800	15,253
May 9-10	175	2,578,100	14,732
May 16-17	176	2,650,400	15,059
May 23-24	169	2,369,100	14,018
May 30-31	173	2,590,100	14,972
June 6-7	178	2,834,800	15,926
June 13-14	165	2,511,700	15,222
June 20-21	170	2,579,400	15,173
June 27-28	174	2,557,000	14,695
July 4-5	163	2,507,300	15,382

Germany's 1st - Runs

(Continued from page 1)

Cologne where all big theatres were either levelled or heavily damaged. Only two houses remain there which qualify as first-run outlets. In Bremen, the story is much the same, with destruction of the best houses well nigh complete. Three theatres are being reconstructed there, however, and by the end of the year, the acute shortage in release outlets should be considerably eased.

Of the four cities, Hamburg, Maas reported, is making the best recovery. Even though it was one of the hardest hit cities of the war, there was more building activity observed there than in any other city. Still intact are three pre-war first-run houses, two of which have been requisitioned for British troops. For release outlets, MPEA has been obliged to convert two suburban houses into first-runs. This has not proved too serious a handicap commercially because, with downtown Hamburg thoroughly bombed out, there has been a considerable shift of population to suburban areas.

MPEA now has branch offices in seven key cities of Germany, including three in British-occupied territory, and all are now in full operation. Office quarters in most cases are meagre.

Army Names Horton

WASHINGTON, August 2.—Lt. Col. John E. Horton has been assigned as chief of the motion picture unit in the pictorial section of the Army's public information division. His duties are directed to aiding the film industry on all matters pertaining to the Army. The post was recently vacated by Major Stuart Palmer.

Cite C. P. Skouras on TOA 'Youth' Work

HOLLYWOOD, August 2.—Charles P. Skouras, national chairman of Theatre Owners of America's "Youth Month" campaign, was commended at the weekend by church and civic leaders at a luncheon-meeting at Fox-West Coast's executive dining room. The gathering, which included club, press and radio leaders, pledged cooperation in connection with the campaign.

TOA president Ted R. Gamble, guest speaker, traced for those present the course of the "Youth Month" drive from its conception two years ago.

Smith Heads 'Youth Drive' Distributors

Charles P. Skouras, national chairman of the "Youth Month" committee of the Theatre Owners of America, has named Andy W. Smith, Jr., general sales manager of 20th-Fox, as distribution chairman of the drive.

Smith is in charge of the distribution of the two-reel subject "Report for Action" and arrangements for co-operation of national distributors and film exchange groups with local state and theatre chairmen participating.

Convertible Theatre For General Service

HOLLYWOOD, August 2.—Architects' plans for making stage No. 4, General Service Studio's largest, convertible into a 550-seat auditorium for previews and other special events have been approved by James Nasser who with his brothers heads the lot. Project is part of an expansion program under way at General under the direction of Theodore Nasser.

'Velvet' to the Rivoli

"The Velvet Touch," which ushers into the Hollywood producing field the new Independent Artists, will have its world premiere at New York's Rivoli following the current "So Evil My Love."

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Johnston Seen Headed for Paris on Pact

Report French Offer to Unfreeze Nine Millions

Eric A. Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association of America, now on the Coast, is likely to make an early trip to Paris to confer with U. S. State Department officials now there negotiating a new U. S.-French film agreement, according to reports here.

The entire French matter as it concerns the American film industry was placed in Johnston's hands on Monday by the board of the Motion Picture Export Association. The group had been in session when Gerald May-

(Continued on page 3)

Remittable Dollars Are Due This Month

First of the remittable dollars due U. S. film companies from England under the exchange agreement with that country are expected this month, according to executives here. While last July 14 actually was the date for the currency transfer, it was pointed out that the mechanics of the entire operation had to be worked out for the initial payment. Subsequent installments will be simplified, conforming to the pattern.

The companies are allowed to draw a total of \$17,000,000 annually (12 payments of \$1,416,000 each) plus the equivalent of the dollar earnings of British pictures in the U. S. and the Philippines. The latter is to be computed on a quarterly basis.

Wometco Drive - Ins To Encircle Miami

Miami, August 3.—Wometco Theatres, operating 20 theatres in this area, has completed plans to build a series of drive-ins around the city of Miami and environs, Mitchell Wolfson and Sidney Meyer, co-owners, report.

Unique is their new Boulevard Drive-in, which, besides a supervised playground for the use of youngsters during the exhibition of pictures not suitable for children, will have a refreshment stand and shopping facilities.

Decision Reserved On N.T. Settlement

Arguments on the proposed settlement of 20th-Fox minority stockholders' suits involving more than \$6,850,000, representing sale of 40,000 shares of National Theatres' Class B stock and salaries and bonuses of N.T. officers, were heard in New York State Supreme Court here yesterday. Justice Ferdinand Pecora reserved decision and gave counsel until August 16 to submit briefs to the court.

A highlight of the hearing was the disclosure that Universal was a bidder for the N.T. stock before it was repurchased by 20th-Fox, the parent company, from Charles P. Skouras, Elmer Rhoden, Frank H. Ricketson and H. J. Fitzgerald.

Judge Samuel Rosenman, counsel for the directors of 20th-Fox and N.T., pointed out that if the stock had not been sold back to 20th-Fox and had come into the possession of a competitor, the result would have been "disastrous" to 20th-Fox.

In urging the court to accept the proposed settlement of \$3,550,000, Rosenman, Robert P. Patterson as

(Continued on page 8)

\$10,000,000 U. S. Income in Sweden

WASHINGTON, August 3.—U. S. companies' film income from Sweden is running about \$10,000,000 annually, based on last year's revenue from the 183 films marketed in that country last year, it is indicated in a Commerce Department report on Sweden and Norway issued here today by Nathan D. Golden, department film chief. Roughly this is about the same as the income from the 43 Swedish films shown.

In his report, Golden says that U. S. films are "occasionally more brutal" than the Swedish censors will allow. Of 318 films submitted last

(Continued on page 3)

SIMPP Ready With Suits vs. Circuits

Robert J. Rubin, counsel for the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, will return to the Coast today from New York where it is believed he completed work preliminary to filing anti-trust actions in behalf of the society against theatre circuits and film-buying combines. Basis of the suits will be the allegation that the group theatres arbitrarily set booking terms and refuse to play independent producers' films unless the circuits' terms are agreed to.

Ascap Board Weighs Theatre Case Today

Board of directors of Ascap will meet here today for further consideration of future action in consequence of the recent Federal District Court decision holding Ascap's theatre licensing methods to be in violation of the anti-trust laws.

Indications are that the board may approve appointment of special counsel to handle the case at today's meeting.

Prepare N.Y. Ascap Ruling for Berger

MINNEAPOLIS, August 3.—Ben Berger, president of North Central Allied, acting as an independent theatre operator, is going ahead with plans to inject Judge Vincent L. Leibell's anti-Ascap New York Federal Court decision into the pending Berger test case of the legality of Ascap theatre collections for music copyright performances.

Minneapolis film attorneys Louis B. Schwartz and Samuel Halpern, Berger's counsel in his test case, are preparing for presentation to Federal Court here the text of Judge Leibell's decision which declared Ascap a monopoly in an injunctive order. Judge Gunnar Nordbye has had the Berger case under advisement for several months. It involves four Berger houses and Mrs. Jessie Jensen's Avalon Theatre at White Bear.

Reject Profits Tax Bill Before It's Filed

WASHINGTON, August 3.—The Administration today unveiled the excess profits tax bill it would like Congress to pass, and the Republicans made it plain immediately they had no plans whatsoever to pass it.

"There'll be no tax legislation at the special session," said Ways and Means Committee chairman Knutson.

The bill, which would affect about 25,000 out of 360,000 corporations, is more lenient than the wartime bill. It would allow a credit of 140 per cent of the 1936-39 invested capital return on average profits, then give another \$50,000 exemption, and then graduate the rates from 50 per cent to 80 per cent. Wartime rates went up to 90 per cent, had smaller credits and exemptions. It will be introduced in the House tomorrow by Rep. Dingell (R., Mich.).

Ceilings on Film Budgets As Costs Soar

U-I May Place \$1 Million Limit on Some Pictures

Ceilings on production costs, flexible to a limited extent, are contemplated by a majority of film companies, according to executives here who report such action must be taken in order to balance studio expenditures, which have been skyrocketing, with distribution earnings.

Paramount reportedly already has limited itself to a maximum of \$1,500,000 for each production and similar action appears to have become one of the top subjects on the agenda of the annual studio meeting of Universal-International executives starting in Hollywood next Monday.

Executives here state they have hit upon the realization that a profit on distribution is too often beyond reach

(Continued on page 3)

Scully Sets Policy On U-I's Rank Films

Universal-International has adopted a new marketing policy for the J. Arthur Rank product in the U. S. with the subject matter of each of the British pictures determining which of three selling approaches will be taken, according to William A. Scully, vice-president and general sales manager.

Films of the type which met resistance in the smaller towns and other areas henceforth will be earmarked for specialized handling with selling to be concentrated in certain theatres around the country which have yielded top returns in the past on a long-run basis, Scully said.

Further information was given by Maurice Bergman, Eastern advertiser

(Continued on page 3)

Studio Employment Is Up 3 Per Cent

Hollywood, August 3.—Studio employment increased slightly during June, rising to 86.4 per cent on California Labor Bureau's index scale, from May's 83.3. The index a year ago was 106.9 per cent. The bureau index is based on 1940 representing 100 per cent.

Personal Mention

NED DEPINET, RKO Radio executive vice-president, left here yesterday by plane for Los Angeles.

ROBERT MOCHRIE, RKO Radio distribution vice-president, accompanied by **WALTER E. BRANSON**, Western division sales manager and **HARRY J. MICHALSON**, short subject sales manager, will return to New York tomorrow from Hollywood.

FRANK BUCK, accompanied by RKO Radio Eastern field supervisor **HARRY REINERS**, will be in Washington today from New York on the first stop of a personal appearance tour.

DUKE ELLINGTON, **KAY KYSER** and **MRS. KYSER**, **JACK ROBBINS**, head of Robbins Music; and **ROBERT MORLEY** are among passengers arriving here today from Europe on the *SS Queen Elizabeth*.

RAFAEL RAMOS COBIAN, president of Cobian Theatres of San Juan, Puerto Rico, and **JUAN MENENDEZ**, vice-president of Compania Cinematografica Cubana, are in New York.

BEN KALMENSEN, Warner distribution vice-president, is due in Chicago today on a tour of the company's Western exchanges.

LEW KERNER, former executive talent director for Samuel Goldwyn Productions, has returned to New York from Europe.

MAX WILKINSON, Samuel Goldwyn Productions story editor, arrived here yesterday en route to Europe for conferences with **SIR ALEXANDER KORDA**.

HOWARD STRICKLING, M-G-M studio publicity head, and his wife will sail from England on Saturday on the *SS Queen Mary* for New York.

JOSEPH H. SEIDELMAN, head of foreign operations for Universal-International, will fly to the Coast for studio conferences this weekend.

ED HINCHY, head of the Warner playdate department, will leave here today for New Haven and Boston.

NORTON V. RITCHEY, Monogram International president, will sail for Europe today on the *SS America*.

BERNARD J. GATES, Monogram International Latin American supervisor, is in Rio de Janeiro.

5th & Walnut Appeal Notice Filed Here

Notice of appeal to the Second Circuit Court of Appeals in New York was filed yesterday by Monroe Stein on behalf of his client, Fifth and Walnut Amusement Co., in its anti-trust action against major distributors. A jury verdict handed down on June 29 in U. S. District Court here dismissed the distributor-defendants.

Insider's Outlook

By **RED KANN**

SPYROS SKOURAS spared no verbal horses in a revealing address before 20th Century-Fox's sales convention in Toronto a handful of days ago. He described 1947 as a year of "heart-breaking experience" and linked it to the side of the "nightmarish."

Eighteen pictures released in that period averaged more than \$2,300,000 apiece to turn out, but the disappointment entered, as Skouras put it, because: "While these pictures made money for our customers, they did not bring us the return expected and, on many of them, we actually lost money because as high as were the rentals earned, these receipts in ratio to the high cost of production effected losses to the company."

The consequence, he observed, not only was "shocking, but incredible because we had taken every precaution in preparing and making these pictures." The pinch entered in that "we just didn't get enough to pay for them."

The final result, it was further and frankly explained, was a loss of \$6,000,000 on the production side, although the company did show a net of \$3,000,000 at the close of last year. "What saved us," explained Skouras, "was earnings on pictures of previous years and the earnings of our theatre subsidiaries." The production-distribution loss traced to the conclusion the pictures were not sold "in ratio to actual production cost."

The story of the budget goes like this:

The 1946-47 lineup of 18 attractions costing \$41,400,000 at an average of \$2,300,000, compared with the 1947-48 schedule of 24 releases costing \$45,600,000 at an average of \$1,900,000.

The 30 pictures planned for the forthcoming season, however, are estimated at \$48,000,000 to \$50,000,000 at an anticipated average of \$1,600,000. According to this analysis, therefore, 20th-Fox is linking its operations to the times by cutting its per-picture budget from \$2,300,000 to \$1,600,000.

The difference of \$700,000 per attraction in a two-year span is whale of a difference on anybody's adding machine.

Poking an obvious poke at individuals unnamed, Skouras also

had this to remark: "We have no sympathy with those people in our industry who view the future with such pessimism. We approach the future with greatest confidence."

On television, he practically blueprinted his company's objective when he pointed out the policy is long-range. "We have gone deep into this subject of television. We have been working on it for the past several years. We intend to march with the progress of television because we know that it will add to the popularity and widen the market of motion pictures."

The measure of popularity he forecasts is Skouras' conviction that video will build new audiences for picture houses; in fact, he foresees millions of them by 1953. Perhaps it will be encouraging for theatremen to learn this, too:

"I believe that television will bring about results that will, in time, enable the motion picture theatres to earn twice as much as they are earning today. With the large television screen, we can supplement programs with entertainment and subjects that the small home sets cannot furnish. We will be able to televisualize [this may be one for future dictionaries] for our audiences all of the important doings of the day—and when they are actually happening."

On a broader level, finally this:

"We believe goodwill and best public relations come from the quality of motion pictures we make. But I believe it should be an intelligent product, too. It should be a courageous product."

Directors normally meet in board rooms designated for the purpose. Circumstances, however, occasionally dictate otherwise. Examples: The board of a wholly-owned Paramount theatre subsidiary which met in a corridor of the Paramount Building. The board of another 100 per cent-owned theatre company which got together in a washroom.

Unprecedented, perhaps, was a recent UA board conclave held in the quarters of Grad Sears at New York Hospital.

Newsreel Parade

OPENING of Idlewild Airport at the start of the Olympic games are current newsreel highlights. Other items are the blast in Germany's Farben chemical plant, and Congress probe of the Red spy ring. Complete contents follow:

MOVIE TONE NEWS, No. 62—World's greatest airport opened. Congress probe Communist spy ring in U. S. Th killed and injured in German blast. Olympic games.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 296—Olympic games. U. S. woman spy for Reds tells her story. Blast disaster wrecks town in Germany. Greatest airport inaugurated.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 99—Aerial cross-roads of the world. Israel salutes heroes on "Nation Day." Blast wrecks chemical plant in Germany. Olympic games.

UNIVERSAL NEWS, No. 166—Mammoth air show opens. New York airport German explosion kills 200, injures over 3,000. First post-war Olympic games held in London.

WARNER PATHE NEWS, No. 101—Truman and Dewey open airport. Explosion in Germany. Israel army on parade. Ex-Red testifies. Olympic games begin.

\$50,000 for Cancer From 'Power' Short

Warner yesterday turned over \$50,000 to Walter Winchell, secretary-treasurer of the Damon Runyon Memorial Fund, representing the profits from its two-reel Technicolor film "Power Behind the Nation." The film, which was produced by Warner and sponsored in distribution by the Motion Picture Association of America, played over 10,000 theatres in the U. S.

S.D.G. Establishes Quarterly Awards

HOLLYWOOD, August 3.—Screen Directors Guild has inaugurated a self-contained balloting system by which it will make quarterly and annual awards to members for the best direction. Move does not affect the Academy's annual awards machinery.

PCCITO Trustees To Meet September 14-16

HOLLYWOOD, August 3.—Annual meeting of Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners trustees will be held here on September 14-16 at the Ambassador Hotel, executive secretary Robert H. Poole announces.

Resigns SRO Post

CINCINNATI, August 3.—Jack Keating has resigned as manager of the local Seiznick Releasing Organization branch. His future plans have not been announced, nor his successor named.

Tulipan, Frick Switch

Ira Tulipan, 20th Century-Fox trade press contact here, and Lou Frick, press book editor, have switched positions, Charles Schlaifer, director of advertising-publicity, announces.

Republic Board Meeting

Republic Pictures' board of directors is scheduled to meet here on August 26.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone Circle 7-3100. Cable address: "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo J. Sullivan, Vice-President and Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; Gus H. Fausel, Production Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 120 South La Salle Street, Editorial and Advertising. Urban Farley, Advertising Representative; Jimmy Ascher, Editorial Representative. Washington, J. A. Otten, National Press Club, Washington, D. C. London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1. Hope Burnup, Manager, Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; Theatre Sales; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame, Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, \$6 in the Americas and \$12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

High Ticket Taxes Attacked in Sweden

WASHINGTON, August 3.—Protests of Swedish theatre owners against the increased admission tax are not expected to produce "any noticeable effect," according to a Commerce Department report prepared by motion picture chief Nathan D. Golden.

At the annual congress of theatre association a protest against the increased tax was adopted and submitted to the government. The protest stated that the new tax unjustifiably burdened a large part of the population for whom motion pictures are the only kind of amusement, that the high standards of the theatres and the large domestic production were attained by large attendance, and that attendance is now declining and may soon not be sufficient to keep up domestic production.

The report says that a new labor agreement for studio technical personnel has been signed, clearing the way for resumption of production, which had been at a standstill since late December.

Equipment Demand Is High in Europe

Fred H. Hotchkiss, Continental European manager of the Westrex Corp., Western Electric foreign distributor, has returned to New York from 10 weeks in Europe, and reports that the demand for film equipment for both studios and theatres continues high. Availability of funds, he adds, has not yet been markedly affected by the ERP plan, except in Switzerland and Belgium. Highest anticipation for improvement of conditions as a result of American aid was in Italy, he reports.

\$10,000,000 to U. S.

(Continued from page 1)

year, about 30 per cent were altered, usually by deletions.

The Norwegian government is expected to become a stockholder in Norsk Film, the Commerce Department film chief reported.

An additional loan will be used to establish a special division in the company to produce educational films. Another loan will be to develop the studio at Jar. This loan will be secured by the decision of many municipalities to make one per cent of the gross of their municipally-owned theatres available if necessary.

Municipally-owned theatres in Norway suffered an 11 per cent drop in earnings last year, Golden reports. He states that latest figures list 364 theatres in Norway, of which 160 are municipally owned.

Exhibition in Norway during the past six months of "several excellent U. S. films has considerably tempered the former adverse tone of most Norwegian critics towards films produced in the U. S.," according to the report. At the same time, the import of some British "B" films has cut the popularity of British pictures.

Newman To Visit U. S.

OTTAWA, August 3.—A. H. Newman, newly appointed Canadian government central liaison for all American film production in Canada, has left here for a series of engagements with American film interests, including Hollywood, in connection with his new duties.

Budget Ceilings

(Continued from page 1)

because of huge production costs and the tight situation of foreign markets. The only answer, they say, is cutting production outlay and at the same time, through greater efficiency of operation, actually enhance the quality of product.

Eric A. Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association of America, recently voiced the conviction of most executives that producers can no longer rely on foreign market earnings and should figure their budgets on the potential revenue from the U. S. almost exclusively.

'More Earthy' Films for Masses

Universal officials are said to have in mind a new policy of holding budgets to between \$700,000 and \$1,000,000 and the production of more earthy, "solid" entertainment for mass appeal. "Abbott and Costello Meet Frankenstein," currently doing exceptionally big business, was given as an example of the type of product in mind, and as evidence that the policy can work.

It is said that the company has its sights on distribution revenue of between \$2,000,000 and \$3,000,000 on its \$700,000-to-\$1,000,000 product. This would mean a profit on each picture of \$500,000 to \$1,000,000 after distribution costs, advertising and print charges.

Would Not Bar High Cost Films

Under the plan, the lower-budget product would be the backbone of its entire program but occasional films costing perhaps \$2,000,000 or \$3,000,000 would not be eliminated.

Slated to participate in Universal's annual production conclave are: J. Cheever Cowdin, chairman of the board; Nate J. Blumberg, president; William Goetz and Leo Spitz, production executives; Charles D. Prutzman, vice-president and general counsel; Joseph H. Seidelman, vice-president in charge of foreign distribution; William A. Scully, vice-president and general sales manager; Maurice Bergman, Eastern advertising-publicity manager; John Joseph, national director of advertising, publicity and exploitation, and Robert Goldstein, Eastern studio representative.

Scully Sets Policy

(Continued from page 1)

ing-publicity manager, who said that top-grade product such as "Hamlet" and "Christopher Columbus" will be consigned to the top showcases and given road-show treatment. The standard type of fare from England—films figured to appeal to the masses—will be sold in the regular fashion, Bergman said.

Scully pointed to New York's Sutton Theatre and the Stage Door in San Francisco as examples of the type of house figured in the new policy on certain new British pictures. Such imports as "I Know Where I'm Going" have played the Sutton three months at consistently good business.

Universal's own experience will be the yardstick in determining in which of the three selling categories future Rank pictures will be placed, Scully said. Decisions will be made from the point of subject matter of the product, not the budget, Bergman emphasized.

Scully and Bergman returned to New York last week from London where the new policy was set with the Rank organization.

See Mexican Trade Aided by Peso Cut

MEXICO CITY, August 3.—Recovery of the Mexican industry from the slump into which it has fallen since the war's end is seen in some trade quarters here as a result of the new devaluation of the peso.

Increased theatre patronage is expected because those who depend on exports and the tourist trade for their livelihood will have more money to spend on entertainment. This is good news to exhibitors, who complain that business this summer is 40 per cent below what it was this time last year.

The devaluation has one disadvantage for U. S. and other foreign distributors. They will get less money out of Mexico because it will cost 6.5 pesos instead of 4.85 to buy a dollar.

Canada Seeks Video Channels from U. S.

OTTAWA, August 3.—Canada is negotiating with the United States for television broadcasting channels covering a belt 250 miles deep on each side of the boundary and practically including all major Canadian cities. Canadian Broadcasting Corp.'s first meeting after Oct. 1 will consider applications by private business for the right to open television stations in Canada and it is expected the first Canadian television station will be operating within 18 months.

ABC Shares Listed On Stock Exchange

Stock of American Broadcasting Co. has been placed on the New York Stock Exchange. Some 1,689,017 shares of common, one dollar par value, are selling at close to nine points.

Edward J. Noble, now ABC board chairman, purchased the network in 1943 for \$8,000,000. Its 1947 net earnings were \$1,520,756.

Memphis Manager Dies

MEMPHIS, August 3.—Ab Morrison, dean of Memphis theatre managers, died at his home here yesterday afternoon at the age of 77. He had been an invalid for about six years following a hip injury which resulted in his retirement in 1942 as manager of the Warner after 10 years in the post.

Schine Station Ready

ALBANY, N. Y., August 3.—WPTR, 10,000-watt Schine station, will open here Friday night with a program from the ballroom of the Ten Eyck Hotel. Louis W. Schine is expected to head circuit officials attending this first Schine radio operation.

Witherell to Video Films

William Witherell, film producer and radio-television copyrighter for Batten, Barton, Durstine and Osborn, will leave that ad agency on Friday to handle spot film commercials for Video Films in Detroit.

Satori Moved to N. Y.

William Satori, Monogram's Continental European representative, will now make his headquarters at the Monogram International home office here. He heretofore made his headquarters in London.

Johnston to Paris

(Continued from page 1)

er, head of the MPAA international division, now in Paris, reported by telephone that the French Government had changed its proposals on the uses by the U. S. companies of their blocked money in that country.

It is understood that the French have offered to convert to American dollars all French francs owned by the U. S. companies, reportedly totaling \$9,000,000, to be remitted to the U. S. over a four-year period. In addition, a part of future earnings would be remittable with the balance blocked.

It is said that the French apparently are patterning their dollar-exchange system after that adopted by England where that government established various "permitted uses," such as investment in production of blocked funds.

Inquiry revealed that Johnston has been considering a European trip but that no definite plans have been made yet.

C. R. Reagan, 56, Head of 16mm. Group

C. R. Reagan, president of the newly formed Film Control Council of America and former associate head of the bureau of motion pictures of the Office of War Information, died last Saturday in Paris, according to reports reaching here. He was 56 years old.

Reagan, accompanied by his wife, was in Paris to attend a UNESCO meeting. After a career in education, he left the teaching profession in 1925 to become a dealer in the old Acme portable projectors. Later, he operated a circuit of theatres near Bryson, N. C.

He was an organizer and first president of the National Association of Visual Education Dealers. In 1942 he aided in the setting up of the OWI 16mm. advisory committee. He was named associate chief of the OWI Domestic Motion Picture Bureau in 1944.

Services in Buffalo For P. A. Powers

BUFFALO, August 3.—The Right Reverend Monsignor Edmund J. Britt officiated at a Solemn Requiem High Mass for P. A. Powers at 10 o'clock this morning in St. Joseph's Old Cathedral. Powers, 79, industry veteran, died in New York last Friday evening of coronary thrombosis. Interment was in his native New York village of Limestone.

Milder Interment To Be in This Country

LONDON, August 3.—Private services were held here in his home for the late Max Milder, formerly Warner managing director in the United Kingdom, who died on Sunday following a lengthy illness. The remains will be returned to America, but a date is uncertain at this time.

He had been in London for 20 years, from the U. S.

New UK Censor Official

LONDON, August 3.—Arthur Watkins has been appointed secretary of the British Board of Film Censors, succeeding the late Brooke Wilkinson. Watkins was assistant secretary to the Board.

Hold every



DENNIS
MORGAN ★ **CAR**

IN A RIOTOUS ROUND-UP OF SONG, SPECTACLE AND TERRIFIC T

TWO GUYS
FROM TEXAS



thing!!!!



**WATCH
WARNERS'
WIDE-OPEN
ALL-TEXAS
PREMIERE
TODAY!**



ON
EETHEARTS!

IN COLOR BY
TECHNICOLOR!!

**TEXAS' TOP SHOW EVENT
COVERED COAST TO COAST!**

The stars will be there! Governors, mayors, Indian chiefs! And the newsreels will be there; the networks will be there; plus news reporters, wire services, photo syndicates, top magazines!

and
DOROTHY MALONE · PENNY EDWARDS · DAVID BUTLER · ALEX GOTTLIEB

Screen Play by I.A.L. Diamond and Allen Boretz • Suggested by a Play by Robert Sloane and Louis Pelletier • Orchestral Arrangements by Ray Heindorf • Music by Jule Styne • Lyrics by Sammy Cahn

ACTION

Big

Big-scale western. Well-stocked with actionful moments.

— HARRISON'S REPORT

ACTION

Superior

Head-and-shoulders above routine western. Production, camera, acting, story, direction unquestionably superior.

— MOTION PICTURE HERALD

ACTION

Super

Sufficiently impressive to easily earn designation of super-western. Highly-competent cast. Spectacular production values. Hair-trigger direction.

— BOXOFFICER

ACTION

Suspense

Good western. Generous helping of suspense.

— THE EXHIBITOR

ACTION

First Class

More men, more horses, more shooting, all help make this western more effective than usual. First class production.

— SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW

THE

GALLANT

with **ANDY DEVINE • JACK HOLT** and **GRANT WITHERS**

Screen Play by Gerald Adams Original Story by John K. Butler and Gerald Geraghty

A REPUBLIC PICTURE

ACTION

Tops

Well plotted western. Top production. High satisfaction.

— FILM DAILY

ACTION

Strong

Tightly-woven story. Tense and credible outdoor drama. Will bring strong boxoffice results. High above average appeal for entire family. Sure bet.

— INDEPENDENT FILM JOURNAL

ACTION

Wallop

Big brawling western that will stand up in any situation. Solidly based story. Director has given a wallop that spells sturdy entertainment.

— DAILY VARIETY

ACTION

Slam Bang

Slam-bang oater. Will be big hit with action fans and all who like good entertainment. Lots of suspense.

— HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

REGION

LE MARA • JAMES BROWN

er-Director JOSEPH KANE

U R E



starring
WILLIAM ELLIOTT
ADRIAN BOOTH
JOSEPH SCHILDKRAUT
BRUCE CABOT

N. T. Settlement

(Continued from page 1)

counsel for the four N.T. executives, and Milton Pollack, representing the plaintiffs favoring the agreement, took issue with the contentions of attorneys for objectors that the accord was nothing more than a "paper settlement" offered in questionable faith, that the shares were given to the N.T. officers as compensation and not for the purpose of capital gains, that the contract under which Skouras acquired the stock was illegal, and that the stock transaction was a waste of corporate assets.

Proponents of the settlement characterized it variously as "fair" and "generous," and the stock transaction was defended as "valid" and "unassailable."

'Proprietary, Not Compensatory'

In arguing that the transfer of the stock to the N.T. executives "was not a compensatory but a proprietary transaction," Rosenman said that the idea of giving Charles Skouras and the other N.T. officials a proprietary interest in N.T. was born eight years before Spyros P. Skouras became president of 20th-Fox. He denied that the idea was conceived following Spyros Skouras' ascendancy to the film company's presidency.

Counsel for stockholders opposed to the settlement plan contended that Charles Skouras made a profit of \$4,281,000 in the stock deal. They voiced considerable objection to the Skouras earnings, which they termed "excessive." Especially cited was the big jump in his income from 1942 onward. The ceiling of \$360,000 placed on Skouras' earnings in the proposed settlement was objected to as still too high. Rosenman informed the court that the profits of N.T. would have to rise above \$6,400,000 before Skouras and the other three N.T. executives could realize earnings above the ceilings suggested under the settlement.

Four Bought Stock in 1944

The stock under dispute was sold to Skouras, Ricketson, Rhoden and Fitzgerald in 1944, being repurchased by 20th-Fox two years later. The suits were filed in 1946.

The proposed settlement is said to make it possible for 20th-Fox to recover approximately \$1,800,000, while amendments to the employment contract of Charles Skouras, head of N.T., extending over the next seven years, would make it possible to save the company a total of \$1,750,000 additional at current earnings and tax levels. At the same time 20th-Fox would obtain from executives calls expiring Dec. 31, 1949, at \$22.50 per share on 18,500 shares of 20th-Fox common stock.

National Theatres Meet

HOLLYWOOD, August 3.—National Theatres division presidents will convene here tomorrow for their annual summer business sessions, with president Charles Skouras presiding. The meetings are expected to run three days.

FULLY EQUIPPED PROJECTION ROOM FOR LEASE.
WESTERN ELECTRIC
SOUND. 630 9th AVENUE.
Circle 6-6660

Reviews

"Two Guys from Texas"

(Warner Brothers)

DENNIS MORGAN and Jack Carson, song-and-patter team, go on a merry-go-round down in Texas where they stir up a minor tempest of excitement. Their doings provide a lot of lightweight fun, sometimes silly, but never monotonous. Many of the pleasantries are routine, but filmed in Technicolor and loaded with easy-going songs, the film's popular appeal seems natural. On the distaff side are two pretty charmers, Dorothy Malone and Penny Edwards.

No sooner do Morgan and Carson land at a Texas dude ranch than two shady city characters execute a robbery and plant the blame on the former pair. Morgan and Carson spend a major part of their time eluding the sheriff and trying to clear themselves. Between flight and frolic, the boys also find time to pursue romantic ambitions, and thus Miss Malone and Miss Edwards come in for a fair measure of the footage. A good deal of the plot's comedy arises from an unusual fear of animals that Carson has. Upon hasty psychoanalysis, it is learned that behind Carson's fear of animals is a fear of girls.

As treatment, Carson is advised to win over the affections of Morgan's girl, thereby bringing more slapstick comedy into the I. A. L. Diamond and Allen Boretz screenplay. Morgan and Carson work together with effective appeal. Alex Gottlieb produced and David Butler directed.

Running time, 86 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, September 4. M.H.

"Pitfall"

(Regal Films-United Artists)

MANY exploitable attributes are contained in "Pitfall," story of a home-loving family man who becomes fascinated by another woman and finds himself lured into a maelstrom of troubles. The cast is a good one, headed by Dick Powell, Elizabeth Scott and Jane Wyatt; the story is one that makes the plight of the central figure human and believable; and direction by Andre de Toth draws full measure of tension out of the narrative. It is reliable fare for adult audiences.

Powell, an insurance company investigator, is happily married to Miss Wyatt, but longs to escape the monotony of "average" living. He meets Miss Scott while investigating some gifts purchased for her by a boy friend with embezzled funds. Powell soon becomes infatuated, but breaks off in time to save his marriage from disintegration. By this time, however, Miss Scott's boy friend is released from jail, and through the instigation of a jealous private detective, sets out to "get" Powell. In self-defense, Powell kills the boy friend and after a good deal of soul-searching and remorse confesses to his wife the mistake of his past.

Powell and Miss Wyman are proficient and credible in their roles. As the hulking private detective, Raymond Burr handles his slickly-styled role with easy competence. Miss Scott, as the "other woman" who finally shoots the mettlesome detective, has a vibrant quality, even though her role is occasionally burdened with trite dialogue. A Regal Films production released through United Artists, Samuel Bischoff produced. The Karl Kamb screenplay was based on the Jay Dratler novel.

Running time, 85 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, August 18. M.H.

Memphis Censor Ban Clearance Changes On 'Lulu Belle' Eased Asked in Newington

MEMPHIS, August 3.—Columbia's "Lulu Belle," which the Memphis board of censors voted unanimously on June 29 to ban here, will open at the Malco Theatre on August 12, as originally scheduled, following a revision of the board's ruling. The board changed its position after deletions suggested by Columbia, according to Lloyd T. Binford, chairman of the censor board.

Binford said the board has restricted showing of the film to the Malco and added that "it will not be shown at any suburban theatre, where most of the children go." He also said the Malco showing would not be restricted to adults because "that would just make some youngsters lie about their age to get in."

\$7,500 Capitol 'Jackpot'

New York Capitol Theatre's first "jackpot" in the current "Mystery Melody—Stop the Music" stage show was won yesterday by a patron, one J. M. Hughes of Long Island. It totaled \$5,000 in prizes and will be followed today by a second, of \$7,500. On the screen is "On an Island with You." The house is playing five performances daily, opening at nine A.M.

HARTFORD, August 3.—The American Arbitration Association here has received an arbitration demand against the five major distributors from Nick Kounaris and Apostolis Tolis, operators of the Newington Theatre in Newington.

A revision of clearances of New Britain houses over Newington is sought. Warner's Strand and Embassy, both in New Britain, have 30-day clearance over Newington for Warner product and 21 days in respect to other product, it is asserted, and a reduction to one day is asked.

Para. Screen Tests Cadets for Premiere

In a novel use of its theatre television process, Paramount last night gave screen tests to West Point cadets and later, as a curtain-raiser to the New York premiere of Paramount's "Beyond Glory," showed a film record of the tests, as televised to the Paramount Theatre projection booth. The 400 West Point cadets were dinner guests at Tavern-on-the-Green and at the premiere. The tests were televised from Tavern-on-the-Green.

Short Subjects

"White-Collar Girls"

(March of Time—20th-Fox)

Women today are successfully climbing the heights of American industry. This latest March of Time points out in formula fashion, the subject examines that new sociological phenomenon—the career girl, and brings to light some interesting statistics—16,000,000 jobholders today are women, etc., etc.

The film highlights typical career girls, showing their hopes, ambitions, activities and disappointments. Much of the subject's material seems more obvious than revealing, and, while adequate, seems, as a whole, a bit below the par of others in the series. Running time, 17 minutes.

"Sport's Golden Age"

(RKO Pathe—This Is America)

The sporting habits of the U. S. population, both as spectator and participant, are examined in "Sport's Golden Age," an appealing subject that stands up well in the series.

Along its course the subject offers glimpses of such past idols in action as Jack Dempsey, Knute Rockne, Johnny Weissmuller, Bobby Jones and Babe Ruth. The subject also comes up with a fistful of interesting statistics such as the disclosure that sport is a \$4,000,000,000-a-year institution. Jay Bonafield produced and Phil Reisman, Jr. supervised. Running time, 17 minutes.

Variety of Reasons For Kentucky Drop

LOUISVILLE, August 3.—A survey through the state indicates low receipts at box-offices, with some blaming the low quality of product and reissues, and others blaming the extremely hot and humid weather throughout most of the state. Still others blame the increase in the number of theatres, as well as the new drive-ins which are dividing up potential customers.



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44. NO. 25

NEW YORK, U.S.A., THURSDAY, AUGUST 5, 1948

TEN CENTS

Potential Film Fire Loss Is Reduced to 2%

3 Months of Tests to Reduce Fire Hazards

WASHINGTON, August 4.—Industry and Federal Government fire prevention specialists have concluded nearly three months of comparatively secretive experiments which are claimed to have reduced losses in film fires from 38 per cent on the first test, made on May 19, to less than two per cent.

Factors involved in the tests and fire reduction embrace a new combination of rack and shelf equipment, insulation, thickness of vault walls, pressure, vent areas, and sprinkler and deluge systems, for use in hundreds of film vaults in exchanges, theatres, studios, film storages, distribution offices, and elsewhere.

The experimenters had met each Wednesday since mid-May at a specially-constructed vault on the U. S.

(Continued on page 2)

Allied Studios 20th Conciliation: Myers

WASHINGTON, August 4.—Action by the Allied States board for or against the A. W. Smith 20th Century-Fox conciliation plan may be taken at its next meeting, according to Allied counsel Abram Myers, who said that no date has been set for the session but it will not take place before September.

Like most Allied leaders, Myers said, he is watching the plan with "an open mind." "If we can get some good guinea pig testimony by the time the board meets, that'll be one thing. If we don't have that testimony, that'll

(Continued on page 3)

Test for N. Y. Censor Slated for Sept. 18

ALBANY, N. Y., August 4.—The State Civil Service Commission has set September 18 as the date for a written examination for head censor. The post, director of the motion picture division of the State Education Department, has been filled on a temporary basis since Irving Esmond retired in 1945, with Dr. Ward Bowen currently handling the duties. Re-

(Continued on page 3)

Max Cohen Suit vs. Three Is Settled

Suit filed in U. S. District Court here last May by Max A. Cohen Enterprises which asked for \$1,800,000 in triple damages for alleged anti-trust law violations has been settled and the action is scheduled to be withdrawn within the next few days.

A major part of the settlement is an agreement by which Cohen's New Amsterdam Theatre will play product of the defendants, RKO Radio, Warners and 20th Century-Fox, day-and-date with the RKO Palace. This constituted one of the principal items of relief sought in the suit which was filed shortly after the Palace was changed to a subsequent-run, double feature policy last spring.

A spokesman for one of the defendants said that the agreement by which the New Amsterdam and Palace will play-day-and-date actually was put into effect in June with "The Iron Curtain." Other phases of the settlement were not disclosed pending court action terminating the litigation.

SOPEG Signs New Contract With E-L

A new two-and-a-half-year contract effective August 8 was signed here yesterday by Eagle-Lion and the Screen Office and Professional Employees Guild, UOPWA, CIO. Under the agreement some 65 white-collar workers of the film company will get an immediate 7½ per cent wage increase, with subsequent boosts of 2½ per cent or 3¼ per cent every six months, depending on the company's condition, until a total of 15 per cent has been reached.

All salaries are subject to a cost-of-living adjustment at six-month intervals. The company will review salaries every six months. Eagle-Lion agreed to dues checkoff for employees desiring it.

The contract provides for arbitration of disputes, three weeks' vacations after 10 years' service, increase in

(Continued on page 3)

\$297,952 3 - Months Profit for G.P.E.

General Precision Equipment Corp. and subsidiaries report that the consolidated net profit for the three months ended June 30, after provision for Federal income taxes, was \$297,952, subject to year-end adjustments. Net for the same quarter one year ago was \$417,218.

Directors of GPE have declared a dividend of 25 cents per share on capital stock outstanding, payable September 15 to stockholders of record on August 25.

Canadians Expect Upturn in the Fall

Ottawa, August 4.—Theatre managers here state that they expect business to be good this fall.

Reports that theatre attendance is being affected adversely by the rising cost of living in Canada are not backed by inquiries here, the information being that attendance this summer has only suffered the usual seasonal decline in most houses. There has been no drastic or unexpected drop in attendance, it is emphasized.

Expect Court Will Clarify Arbitration

American Arbitration Association will continue to receive and administer voluntary arbitration complaints within the industry pending eventual clarification of the system's status by the New York Federal Court next fall, officials of the association said here yesterday.

Several complaints have been received from exhibitors since the Supreme Court decision in the Paramount case was handed down and arrangements are being made to process them, and others which may be filed

(Continued on page 3)

Keller Heads Sales Union's Pact Group

Melvin Keller of the Warner branch in Portland, Ore., has been named chairman of the Colosseum of Motion Picture Salesmen's committee which has begun negotiations here for the first national salesmen's union employment contract with distributors. Pat Scollard, Paramount's labor relations chief, heads the distributors' group, which includes Harry Buckley, United Artists; Charles O'Brien, Loew's; Joseph McMahon, Republic, and Burton A. Zorn, counsel.

The salesmen's group also includes Frank Flaherty, Columbia, Chicago; N. M. Proventure, United Artists, Milwaukee, and David Beznor, counsel.

F.C. Sales Drive To Honor Bernhard

A sales drive in honor of Film Classics' president, named the "Joseph Bernhard Drive," was announced here yesterday by B. G. Kranze, distribution vice-president. It will run to December 4.

Payments To Ascap Halted By Affiliates

Pending Clarification of Whom to Pay and How

Affiliated theatres have decided to withhold payments for public performance rights to music from the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, the circuits including Paramount, Warners, RKO, and probably Loew's and 20th-Fox's National Theatres.

It was stressed by all that the payments were ordered stopped only until a clear-cut determination is made on which agency the rights must be cleared through and by what method. Theatre executives readily acknowledged that they are prepared, and fully intend, to pay for music, none of them

(Continued on page 2)

Don't Pay Ascap, Urges Jack Kirsch

CHICAGO, August 4.—Members of Allied Theatres of Illinois were advised today by Jack Kirsch, president, to withhold future payments of fees to Ascap on the basis of an opinion submitted to Allied by its counsel, Thomas C. McConnell.

"Agreements with theatres," said McConnell, "are illegal and cannot be used by Ascap to collect license fees from theatre owners who have signed such agreements. It would seem to be clearly indicated that Allied members should not make any further payments to Ascap because such payments are illegal and do not afford any protection under the copyright laws. In

(Continued on page 2)

AA-Monogram Policy Meet on Saturday

Discussion of current sales, the selling policy for "The Babe Ruth Story" and the charting of policy for 1948-1949 will highlight the agenda of a meeting of Allied Artists-Monogram branch managers and franchise holders to be held Saturday and Sunday at the Drake Hotel in Chicago.

Among the New York contingent will be Morey Goldstein, general sales manager, who will preside; vice-presidents Edward Morey and Charles Mirisch; Lloyd Lind, supervisor of branch operations, and Sol Francis, Midwest district manager.

Personal Mention

ROBERT M. GILLHAM, Selznick Releasing Organization Eastern advertising-publicity chief, left the Coast yesterday for New York.

IRIS DAVIS, daughter of JACK DAVIS, head of Monseigneur News Theatres, London, is gravely ill at National Hospital there, according to word received from DAVIS, who formerly operated theatres here. His daughter was educated in the U. S. and has many friends here.

MARCEL GENTEL, RKO Radio general manager for France, has been awarded the Medaille Militaire by the French government for "action above and beyond the call of duty during time of war."

ARTHUR GOLDSTEIN has resigned as city manager, Portland, Me., for the Snider Circuit of Boston. WILLIAM A. FIELDS has become ad-publicity representative in Portland.

CHARLES KURTZMAN, Loew Theatres division manager in Boston, is substituting for managers in his division during the vacation period.

MARTIN LEVINE, Brandt Theatres general manager and president of Distinguished Films, has returned to New York from a Lake George vacation.

JAMES TUFFY, associated with Comberford Theatres in Scranton, Pa., for 16 years, has been named manager of the Crown Theatre, Hartford.

E. R. ZORNIOTTI, president of Lux Film of U. S., will sail for France and Italy tomorrow on the *SS Queen Elizabeth* from New York.

JACK SCHWARTZ, owner of the Black Rock and West End theatres, Bridgeport, Conn., and MRS. SCHWARTZ, are touring the Great Lakes.

HOMER JAEGBERS, co-owner and manager of the Bonn Theatre, Bonnierville, Ky., is confined to his home due to illness.

JULES LAPIDUS, Warner Eastern and Canadian sales manager, is due back in New York over the weekend from Toronto.

JAMES TOBIN, manager of the Warner Theatre, Bridgeport, and his family are vacationing in New Hampshire.

NOEL MEADOW, vice-president of Vog Films, has returned to New York from a vacation.

HAROLD L. SCHILZ, industry attorney in Washington, is a candidate for the Arlington, Va., county board.

LOU COHEN, manager of Loew's Poli, Hartford, and MRS. COHEN are vacationing at Middletown, Conn.

JONTE TAPS, Columbia studio executive, is a New York visitor.

Census Bureau Busy On Industry Data

WASHINGTON, August 4.—Census Bureau officials are busily at work to get their first motion picture industry statistics since 1939. Questionnaires went out this spring to some 700 producers, for information based on operations last year. The bureau is now working with the industry to draw up questionnaires to submit to distributors and exhibitors next year, based on 1948 business.

Studios are covered by the census of manufacturers. Distributors and theatres come under the census of business. Neither has been taken since 1940, which was based on 1939 business. The census of manufacturers is being taken this year, and the business census next year. Under a law passed by Congress this year, both censuses will next be taken in 1954, and every five years after that.

AFM-Studio Meeting Now Set for Aug. 18

Meeting date of James C. Petrillo, American Federation of Musicians president, and his contract negotiating aides, with producers, which has been see-sawing between August 2, 9 and 18, supposedly in Chicago, has now been definitely set for August 18 in Petrillo's AFM headquarters in New York. A new contract for Hollywood studio musicians is to be discussed.

The organization's executive board meeting will be held as originally scheduled on August 9 in Chicago, at a hotel to be selected by AFM officers in that city.

Mutual Broadcast To Salute Youth Month

"Youth Month—Saluting Young America," will be given a send-off Tuesday night, August 31—the eve of the September celebration—with a Coast-to-Coast broadcast over the Mutual network, it was announced yesterday by Charles P. Skouras, national chairman of the committee.

Originating in Hollywood, stars of screen and radio will participate.

House Hollywood Probe Off Again

WASHINGTON, August 4.—Reopening of the House Un-American Activities Committee's Hollywood investigation, which some committee members said would take place late this month, has been put off again, possibly until after the Presidential elections, according to committee officials.

Charles C. Perry, 52, Para. Field Aide

CINCINNATI, August 4.—Charles C. Perry, 52, special representative for Paramount here, died this morning at Jewish Hospital. He is survived by a son, Jay S. Perry; two sisters and three brothers.

Funeral services will be held Friday at two P.M. at Riverside Memorial Chapel in New York, with interment at Pinelawn National Cemetery.

Affiliates Halt

(Continued from page 1)

having taken the position that charges of some kind are unnecessary.

Paramount is understood to have advised at least some of its fully-owned circuits to cease the Ascap payments until the entire issue is clarified. Its partnership circuit, M & P Theatres, Boston, is suspending payments.

Malcolm Kingsberg, president of RKO Theatres, reported yesterday that that circuit's checks to Ascap have been halted and the company is now awaiting a decision by its legal department.

New WB-Ascap Pact Stopped

Miles Alben, head of the legal department for Warner Theatres, said yesterday that "everything is frozen," referring to the circuit's dealings with Ascap. He said Warners and Ascap were about to sign a new long-term agreement when the New York Federal Court handed down its decision enjoining Ascap from collecting from theatres.

Loew's legal department is now weighing the matter, an executive reported, expressing doubt as to the wisdom of paying Ascap until and if future court decisions so direct.

Suggest Bases for Fees

Meanwhile, from other sources it has been reported that the Warner-owned music publishing companies—all Ascap members—have expressed the opinion that the public performing rights to a composition should be equal in value to the recording, or synchronization rights. Other publishing firms reportedly feel they should collect public performance charges of from one-third to one-half the amount paid by the producer for the recording privilege.

Ascap Board Retains Patterson as Counsel

Engagement of Robert P. Patterson, former Secretary of War and one-time U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals judge, as counsel for Ascap to take charge of problems arising from the Federal Court decision holding it guilty of anti-trust violation was announced here yesterday following a meeting of its board of directors.

Jack Kirsch

(Continued from page 1)

other words, Allied members receive nothing for their money by continuing such payments and are now clearly on notice that such payments are illegal exactions.

"I am of the opinion that Allied members can safely refuse to pay any further monies under Ascap agreements and that the Allied organization can safely recommend such course of action to its members," McConnell said.

3 French Films to Vog

Three new French films have been acquired for American distribution by Vog Film Co. They are "Eagle with Two Heads," Jean Cocteau play, "Dedee D'Anvers" and "Manon."

New Paris Theatre Here Opens Sept. 13

Five French charities will sponsor the opening of the new Paris Theatre here and its initial presentation, "Symphonie Pastorale," which will have its American premiere September 13 for the benefit of American Friends of France, Committee of French-American Wives, Funds for France, Lafayette Preventorium and the Society of Free French in the United States.

The agencies will share jointly in the proceeds of this premiere and of all subsequent ones at this theatre, constructed for Pathe Cinema, French film company which now has a branch in this country.

Monogram To Make Three Films Abroad

HOLLYWOOD, August 4.—Three of Monogram's next four Bowery Boys pictures, starring Leo Gorcey with Huntz Hall, will be filmed in Europe, by producer Jan Grippo. First of the group, "The Bowery Boys Invade London," is set for England, and the pair to follow will be produced in France and Italy.

Fire Loss Reduced

(Continued from page 1)

Agricultural Experimental Farm at Beltsville, Md. Their tests resulted in film-flames dying out in less than two-and-a-half minutes without the use of a drop of water. Some 500-odd cans of nitrate film were employed, donated by the distributing companies. Eleven different combinations in the use of vault equipment were tried before selecting the one to be applied eventually, probably in the fall when details will be disclosed publicly for the first time at the Society of Motion Picture Engineers' semi-annual convention, to be held here.

The Government-industry test committee expects that new film vaults will hereafter be constructed in line with its findings, and that existing vaults will be converted to conform to the new safety conditions.

Industry representatives participating in the experiments included John McCullough of the Motion Picture Association of America, Paramount's Henry Anderson, Eastman Kodak's Alan Cobb and DuPont's Charles Miner. Others included E. W. Fowler of the National Board of Fire Underwriters, and James Cummings of the U. S. National Archives, committee chairman, and representatives of the Army, Navy and several other Federal departments.

Freu To Manage for Universal in Atlanta

ATLANTA, August 4.—James Freu, branch manager of Universal-International in Charlotte, has been transferred to the Atlanta office to replace James Partlow who recently resigned.

Phila. Variety Affair

PHILADELPHIA, August 4.—Local Variety Club will hold its annual golf tournament and dinner-dance at the Whitemarsh Valley Country Club on September 24, it is announced by Max R. Leven, chairman of the event.

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Production Rises, With 34 in Work

HOLLYWOOD, August 4.—The production tally moved up one, to a total of 34. Eight pictures went before the cameras, while seven were moved to the cutting rooms.

Shooting started on "Law of the Barbary Coast," Columbia; "Take Me Out to the Ball Game" and "The Barkleys of Broadway," M-G-M; "The Rangers Ride," Monogram; "Far Frontier," Republic; "Gun Runners," RKO Radio; "Outlaw Country," Screen Guild; "The House Across the Street," Warner.

Shooting was completed on "Smoky Mountain Melody," Columbia; "Bowery Comeback," "Sheriff of Medicine Bow," Monogram; "Tarzan and the Arrow of Death" and "Enchantment," RKO Radio; "Miss Mink of 1949," 20th-Fox; "Criss-Cross," Universal-International.

Test for N. Y. Censor

(Continued from page 1)

sults of the test, which is open only to persons who have a minimum of a year's experience in state service, is expected by December 18. The ban on persons with previous film industry connections, established when the department was given censorship powers in 1927, will continue.

Civil Service has also announced an examination will be held on October 2 for a director for the motion picture unit of the Department of Commerce. The position is provisionally held by Glen Allvine, former public relations director of the Motion Picture Association of America and currently advisor to Governor Dewey on films for the latter's Presidential campaign.

Applications for the test must be filed by August 21. Minimum qualifications include "six years of progressively responsible experience in directing and/or producing motion pictures for promotional or publicity purposes for public or private organizations."

SOPEG, E-L Sign

(Continued from page 1)

minimum hiring rates from \$7 to \$10. It requires that all promotions and discharges be governed by ability, experience and seniority.

William C. MacMillen, Jr., vice-president of E-L in charge of operations, signed for the company, and Sidney Young, SOPEG head, and James Durkin, international president of the UOPWA, for the union.

SOPEG Launches Drive to Boycott United Artists Films

Screen Office and Professional Employees Guild yesterday announced it had launched a campaign among community and fraternal organizations in the New York metropolitan area to boycott United Artists product because of the company's refusal to negotiate a new contract with SOPEG on the grounds the union is opposed to signing the anti-Communist affidavits required under the Taft-Hartley law.

Seek Amusement Tax

St. Louis, August 4.—A bill seeking a five per cent admission tax has been introduced in suburban Richmond Heights. If passed, it would affect two theatres.

Reviews

"Larceny"

(Universal-International)

Hollywood, August 4

EVERYBODY connected with this smartly conceived and brilliantly executed melodrama rates bows from exhibitors hard pressed for sure-fire entertainment with which to win back lagging customers. It opens fast, rushes on like wildfire and ends without a letdown after holding interest as taut as bowstrings through a swift succession of unexpected but always plausible and exciting twists and turns. With John Payne, Joan Caulfield, Dan Duryea and Shelly Winters spearheading an all-around excellent cast, the attraction is sure to spell success in dollar signs.

Payne plays a confidence man, in the employ of racketeer Duryea, and is sent to a California town to set up a phony war memorial for a local hero whose widow, Miss Caulfield, accepts him as the dead man's buddy. Miss Winters portrays Duryea's sweetheart, rebelliously in love with Payne, who secretly follows the latter West and endangers the grafters' project by her emotional demands upon his time. Payne romances both women, and others, to further the swindle enterprise, and complications become too intricate and swift for an adequate synopsis after the arrival of the suspicious Duryea and his men on the scene. The conclusion is terrific.

The picture has an intimate timeliness due to the use of the war memorial as the basis of the swindle, and differs from most films in kind in that the racketeers are credible smoothies rather than stereotyped thugs. It also has its intimate moments in the amorous category, with Miss Winters establishing a new high in the abandoned woman department, and thrives on dialogue clipped to sheerest essentials.

Leonard Goldstein produced and George Sherman directed, from a script by Herbert F. Margolis, Louis Morheim and William Bowers, from the novel, "Velvet Fleece," by Lois Eby and John Fleming. Aaron Rosenberg was associate producer. All acquitted themselves with distinction.

Running time, 89 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, not set.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

"Miraculous Journey"

(Film Classics)

SOME fine showmanship opportunities are offered exploitation-minded exhibitors in "Miraculous Journey," Film Classics' first in Cinecolor. The film is an adventure thriller taking place in the Belgium Congo where an airliner is forced down. The story is told on a mass-appeal level, with some of its formula thrills having a spectacular quality. For example there is a man caught in the jaws of a crocodile, a woman sinking into a tomb of quicksand, and a gorilla attacking a woman. Heading the cast are Rory Calhoun, Audrey Long and Virginia Grey. Also present are an assortment of birds and animals which display some interesting talents. The film rates well in its category. There is no action shortage in Fred Myton's screenplay.

One of the plane's passengers is a fugitive gangster, and once recognized he goes gun-crazy, shoots a co-pilot, and wrecks the plane's equipment. The plane thereupon makes a forced landing. At this point, the story, on a simple level, becomes a parable of modern man, with greed, jealousy and special interest constantly setting one passenger against another. Calhoun generally takes command of setting up the marooned passengers, but is constantly harassed by the gangster, Jim Bannon. As a result there are some hard-swinging fist sessions. And by way of surprise, a hermit enters the scene and teaches his "civilized" brethren the wisdom of the jungle.

After a series of events, Calhoun makes his way alone to civilization and brings back a rescuing helicopter. The main romantic interest centers around Calhoun and Miss Long, who has the role of a blind girl. The Cinecolor is especially effective in catching the wild beauty of jungle scenes. Sigmund Neufeld produced, and Peter Stewart directed.

Running time, 83 minutes. General audience classification. For August release.

MANDEL HERBSTMAN

Legion Classifies Five In A-I, Four in A-II

Five pictures have been classified A-I by the National Legion of Decency. They are: Allied Artists-Monogram's "The Babe Ruth Story," Republic's "Daredevils of the Clouds," Monogram's "Frontier Agent" and "Partners Over Sunset," and Casino Film Exchange's "Das Maedchen Irene" (German). Classified in A-II are: Columbia's "The Black Arrow," 20th Century-Fox's "The Gay Intruders," RKO Radio's "Rachel and the Stranger" and "Paramount's "Sorry, Wrong Number."

Philco Promotes Blodget

PHILADELPHIA, August 4.—Robert Blodget, formerly manager of product design of the Philco Corp. accessory division, has been appointed television product manager, by Larry F. Handy, vice-president of the television and radio division.

Three New Theatres For Denver Area

DENVER, August 4.—C. U. Yaeger, president of Atlas Theatres, is having plans drawn for a second theatre at Monte Vista, where the company already operates the Granada. The new house will be a \$250,000, 1,000-seat job.

Dan Thyne is building a quonset-type theatre at Cheyenne Wells, Colo. It is a 400-seat, \$55,000 job, to be opened about August 15 as the Wells, with Ross Bluck as manager.

Amando Roybal is opening Penasco, N. M., to films by way of a remodeled building.

Revoke Video License

MIAMI, August 4.—Television Station WTVJ here has been given until August 20 to make application for a hearing on the Federal Communications Commission's order revoking its license.

Short Subject

"Neighbor to the North"

(Paramount)

This subject endeavors by use of live action, cartoons, scenics, and industrial clips, to explain to the American public the Canadian situation summed up as a lack of dollars, which caused the Canadian government last winter to cut imports from the United States. It is explained that Canadians hope to build their dollar reserve by less spending, by resumption of European trading, aided by the Marshall Plan; that they hope to build up industry, and that they welcome spending tourists. Actor Ralph Forbes does the explaining, both in dialogue with Walter Abel, and in off-screen narration. The result is somewhat more documentary than entertaining.

The short is proof of the American motion picture industry's good will and a recognition of the forbearance of the Canadian government, which might have hampered the industry as other countries have done, Francis S. Harmon, Motion Picture Association of America vice-president, declared at the trade screening of the subject. Oscar Morgan, Paramount short subject manager, said the short is a forerunner of additional service explanation by the industry of events troubling the world. Running time, 13 minutes.

Expect Court

(Continued from page 1)

in the near future, on a voluntary basis in compliance with the high court decision.

Robert Wright, assistant to the U. S. Attorney General, went on record recently as notifying the AAA that arbitration in the industry no longer is under the Paramount case consent decree. That means that the system now is voluntary for distributor respondents, who formerly were relieved of contempt liability for complaints submitted to arbitration.

Distributor defendants no longer have that protection and, where burden of proof for alleged unfair clearance formerly was upon the exhibitor complainant in industry arbitration, it is now up to the distributor to justify clearance schedules.

Allied Studies

(Continued from page 1)

be another. There'll be no stampede one way or the other."

Myers recalled that he had initiated a similar plan with all film distributors in 1941 but that it had "come to grief because the distributors wouldn't give."

The Allied counsel also admitted that there has been some discussion of a plan for Allied to acquire distribution rights to reissues, but "it has not been submitted as a national issue." Any such plan, he emphasized, would be undertaken as a method of supplying theatres with films and not, he added, as a fund-raising technique.

Set Golf Tourney Date

HARTFORD, August 4.—Annual golf tournament of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of Connecticut will be held at the Racebrook Country Club, Orange, Conn., on August 24.

THIS IS NOT NECESSARY!

EVERYBODY'S TALKING
ABOUT THIS LINE-UP!

MAY

SPENCER TRACY
KATHARINE HEPBURN
VAN JOHNSON
Angela Lansbury
Adolphe Menjou, Lewis Stone
in FRANK CAPRA's
"STATE OF THE UNION."

★ ★ ★
"SUMMER HOLIDAY"
(Technicolor).

MICKEY ROONEY
GLORIA DeHAVEN
Walter Huston, Frank Morgan
Butch Jenkins, Marilyn Maxwell
Agnes Moorehead, Selena Royle.

★ ★ ★
CLARK GABLE
LANA TURNER
Anne Baxter, John Hodiak
in "HOMECOMING"
Ray Collins, Gladys Cooper,
Cameron Mitchell.

JUNE

"BIG CITY"
Starring Margaret O'Brien
Robert Preston, Danny Thomas
George Murphy, Karin Booth
Edward Arnold, Butch Jenkins
Betty Garrett, Lotte Lehmann.

★ ★ ★
JUDY GARLAND, GENE KELLY in
"THE PIRATE" (Technicolor).
Walter Slezak, Gladys Cooper
Reginald Owen.

★ ★ ★
ESTHER WILLIAMS, PETER LAWFORD
RICARDO MONTALBAN
JIMMY DURANTE, CYD CHARISSE
XAVIER CUGAT in "ON AN ISLAND
WITH YOU" (Technicolor).

JULY

IRVING BERLIN's
"EASTER PARADE"
(Technicolor). Starring
JUDY GARLAND, FRED ASTAIRE
PETER LAWFORD, ANN MILLER.

★ ★ ★
"A DATE WITH JUDY"
(Technicolor).
Starring WALLACE BEERY,
JANE POWELL, ELIZABETH TAYLOR
CARMEN MIRANDA, XAVIER CUGAT
ROBERT STACK.

AUGUST

GREER GARSON
WALTER PIDGEON in
"JULIA MISBEHAVES"
PETER LAWFORD, ELIZABETH TAYLOR
CESAR ROMERO, Lucile Watson
Nigel Bruce, Mary Boland
Reginald Owen.

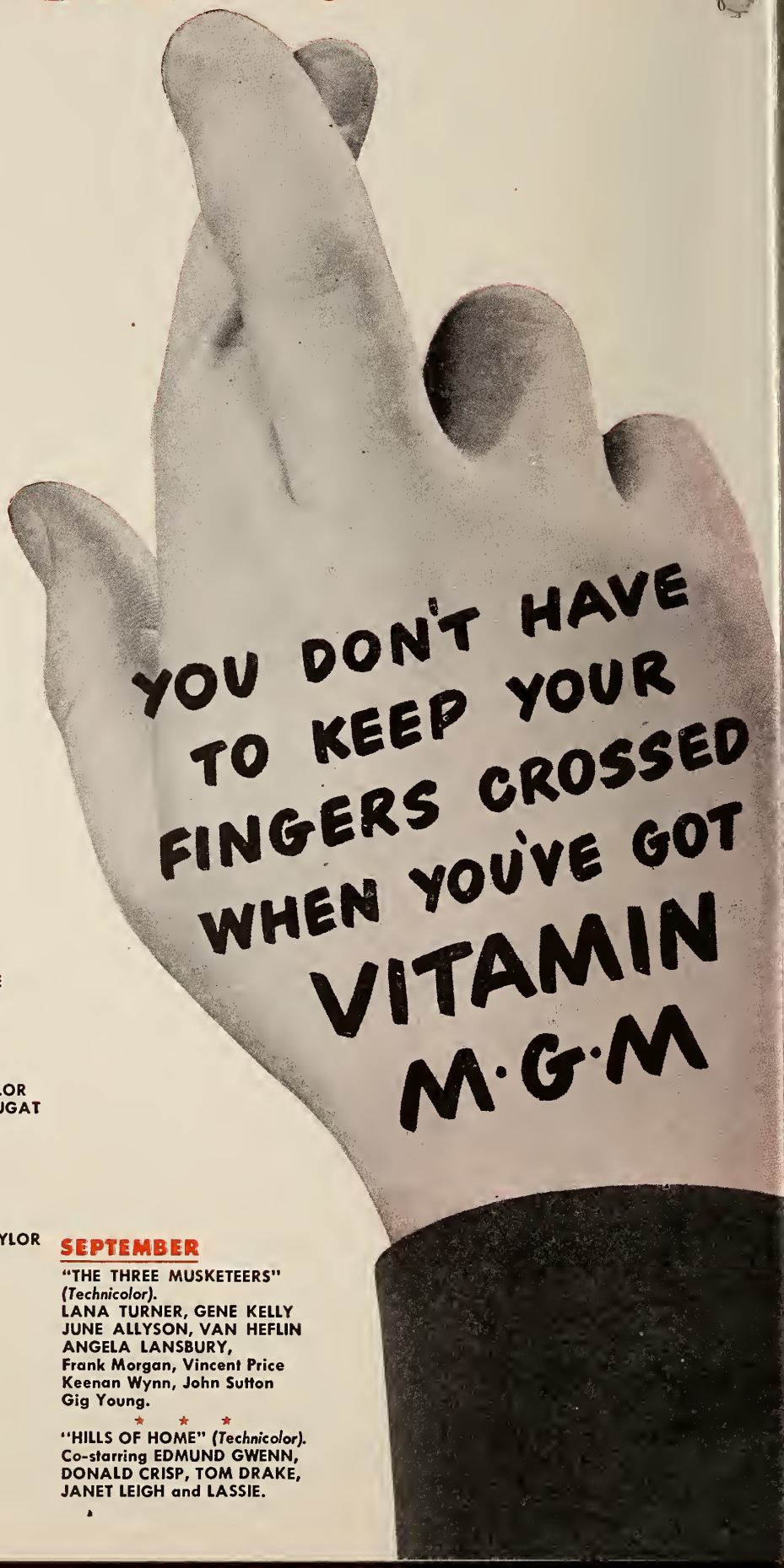
★ ★ ★
MONTGOMERY CLIFT
ALINE MacMAHON
JARMILA NOVOTNA
in "THE SEARCH"

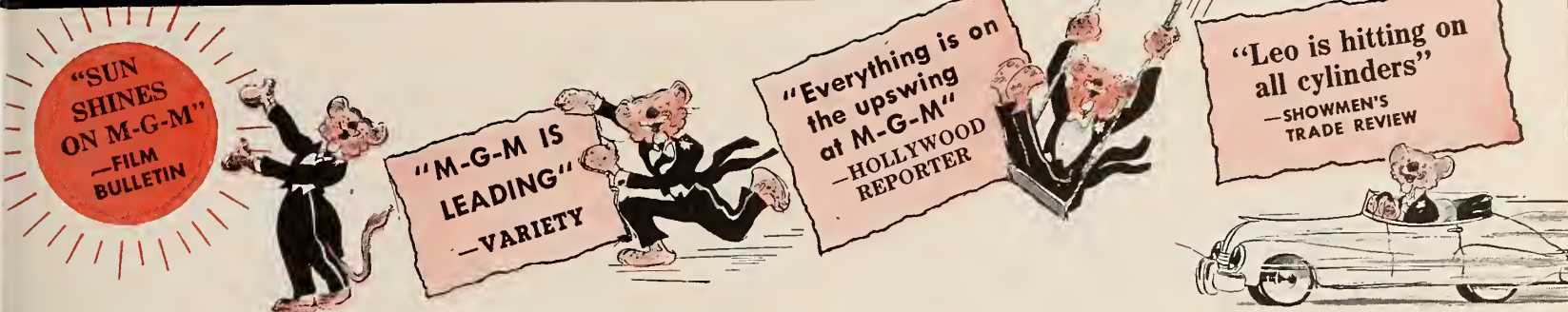
★ ★ ★
RED SKELTON, BRIAN DONLEVY
in "A SOUTHERN YANKEE"
Arlene Dahl, George Coulouris
Lloyd Gough, John Ireland
Minor Watson.

SEPTEMBER

"THE THREE MUSKETEERS"
(Technicolor).
LANA TURNER, GENE KELLY
JUNE ALLYSON, VAN HEFLIN
ANGELA LANSBURY,
Frank Morgan, Vincent Price
Keenan Wynn, John Sutton
Gig Young.

★ ★ ★
"HILLS OF HOME" (Technicolor).
Co-starring EDMUND GWENN,
DONALD CRISP, TOM DRAKE,
JANET LEIGH and LASSIE.





THE TRADE PRESS IS JUMPING!

Everybody's got that Vitamin M-G-M enthusiasm! Now read what Publisher Jay Emanuel says in **THE EXHIBITOR**:

“ The M-G-M studio has hit its stride. ‘Homecoming’ is in the front line of the boxoffice leaders. ‘State of the Union’ brings lustre to any marquee. Another which is accounting for itself nicely is ‘On an Island With You’, while ‘Easter Parade’, in its first engagements, is living up to everything promised for it. Both of these shows place the accent on entertainment rather than messages, which seems to be exactly what the paying patrons desire these days. Leo the Lion has reason to be optimistic about the future, too. ‘A Date With Judy’, ‘Julia Misbehaves’, ‘The Three Musketeers’, and ‘Hills of Home’ are all coming up, with the preview cards said to be very complimentary. It appears as if the company is now in for a succession of films which are aimed for peak audience entertainment. This is a healthy sign. When a leader is hitting things right on the ball, it is encouraging not only to its accounts but it also makes for healthier competition, and serves as an impetus to the others. With the boxoffices needing solid merchandise more than ever, this is encouraging. ”



COOLING THOUGHT!

Many exhibitors have gone out of their way to praise M-G-M for releasing “EASTER PARADE” at the toughest time of the year! Thank you, gentlemen. It's an old M-G-M custom to give our customers Big Ones when they need them most. “EASTER PARADE” is the biggest M-G-M success in years! In cool Technicolor!

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY correspondents. Estimates omit admission tax.

LOS ANGELES

"Melody Time" got off to a nice start at the Pantages and Hillstreet in a week which brought little cheer to other sectors of the first-run front. With weather excellent and counter-attractions about normal, explanation of the general letdown was not conspicuous. Estimated receipts for the week ended August 4:

ABBOTT AND COSTELLO MEET FRANKENSTEIN (U-I) and KINGS OF THE OLYMPICS (UA)—GUILD (965) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: \$5,000. (Average: \$5,450)

ABBOTT AND COSTELLO MEET FRANKENSTEIN (U-I) and KINGS OF THE OLYMPICS (UA)—IRIS (708) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: \$5,000. (Average: \$6,100)

ABBOTT AND COSTELLO MEET FRANKENSTEIN (U-I) and KINGS OF THE OLYMPICS (UA)—RITZ (1,376) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: \$8,000. (Average: \$9,050)

ABBOTT AND COSTELLO MEET FRANKENSTEIN (U-I) and KINGS OF THE OLYMPICS (UA)—STUDIO (880) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: \$5,000. (Average: \$6,300)

ABBOTT AND COSTELLO MEET FRANKENSTEIN (U-I) and KINGS OF THE OLYMPICS (UA)—UNITED ARTISTS (2,100) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: \$12,500. (Average: \$9,580)

CANON CITY (E-L) and LADY AT MIDNIGHT (E-L)—BELMONT (1,600) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: \$4,500. (Average: \$5,750)

CANON CITY (E-L) and LADY AT MIDNIGHT (E-L)—EL REY (861) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: \$5,000. (Average: \$4,700)

CANON CITY (E-L) and LADY AT MIDNIGHT (E-L)—ORPHEUM (2,210) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: \$13,000. (Average: \$14,650)

CANON CITY (E-L) and LADY AT MIDNIGHT (E-L)—VOGUE (800) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: \$5,500. (Average: \$6,500)

ESCAPE (20th-Fox) and FIGHTING BACK (20th-Fox)—CARTHAY CIRCLE (1,516) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00). Gross: \$8,600. (Average: \$9,500)

ESCAPE (20th-Fox) and FIGHTING BACK (20th-Fox)—CHINESE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00). Gross: \$13,000. (Average: \$13,000)

E S C A P E (20th-Fox) and FIGHTING BACK (20th-Fox)—LOEW'S STATE (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00). Gross: \$21,500. (Average: \$19,800)

E S C A P E (20th-Fox) and FIGHTING BACK (20th-Fox)—LOYOLA (1,265) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00). Gross: \$9,500. (Average: \$10,000)

E S C A P E (20th-Fox) and FIGHTING BACK (20th-Fox)—UPTOWN (1,716) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00). Gross: \$9,500. (Average: \$10,000)

A FOREIGN AFFAIR (Para.) and BIG TOWN SCANDAL (Para.)—PARAMOUNT (Downtown) (3,595) (50c-60c-80c-\$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: \$14,000. (Average: \$16,450)

A FOREIGN AFFAIR (Para.)—PARAMOUNT (Hollywood) (1,407) (50c-60c-80c-\$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: \$14,000. (Average: \$13,000)

KEY LARGO (WB) and MUSIC MAN (Mono.)—WARNERS (Downtown) (3,400) (50c-60c-80c-\$1.00) 3rd week. Gross: \$14,000. (Average: \$13,730)

KEY LARGO (WB) and MUSIC MAN (Mono.)—WARNERS (Hollywood) (3,000) (50c-60c-80c-\$1.00) 3rd week. Gross: \$9,500. (Average: \$11,650)

KEY LARGO (WB) and MUSIC MAN (Mono.)—WARNERS (Wilmette) (2,300) (50c-60c-80c-\$1.00) 3rd week. Gross: \$9,500. (Average: \$11,220)

MELODY TIME (Disney-RKO Radio) and MYSTERY IN MEXICO (RKO Radio)—HILLSTREET (2,700) (50c-60c-80c-\$1.00). Gross: \$21,000. (Average: \$18,950)

MELODY TIME (Disney-RKO Radio) and MYSTERY IN MEXICO (RKO Radio)—PANTAGES (2,000) (50c-60c-80c-\$1.00). Gross: \$18,000. (Average: \$17,150)

ON AN ISLAND WITH YOU (M-G-M)—EGYPTIAN (1,000) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: \$11,000. (Average: \$11,900)

ON AN ISLAND WITH YOU (M-G-M)—FOX-WILSHIRE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: \$10,000. (Average: \$12,850)

ON AN ISLAND WITH YOU (M-G-M)—LOS ANGELES (2,096) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: \$16,000. (Average: \$18,100)

THE SEARCH (M-G-M)—FOUR STAR (900) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00) 5th week. Gross: \$6,000. (Average: \$7,450)

THE SEA SPOILERS (Realtart re-release) and THE STORM (Realtart re-release)—MUSIC HALL (Beverly Hills) (900) (65c-85c-\$1.00). Gross: \$3,000. (Average: \$3,150)

THE SEA SPOILERS (Realtart re-release) and THE STORM (Realtart re-release)—MUSIC HALL (Downtown) (900) (65c-85c-\$1.00). Gross: \$6,500. (Average: \$7,550)

THE SEA SPOILERS (Realtart re-release) and THE STORM (Realtart re-release)—MUSIC HALL (Hawaii) (1,000) (65c-85c-\$1.00). Gross: \$3,000. (Average: \$3,400)

THE SEA SPOILERS (Realtart re-release) and THE STORM (Realtart re-release)—MUSIC HALL (Hollywood) (490) (65c-85c-\$1.00). Gross: \$2,500. (Average: \$3,100)

PHILADELPHIA

The big news this week is "Key Largo" at the Stanley, grossing nearly double the theatre's average. Also opening strong are "A Date with Judy" at the Fox, and "So Evil My Love" at the Karlon. Other returns are spotty. Estimated receipts for the week ending August 3-5:

A DATE WITH JUDY (M-G-M)—FOX (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: \$30,000. (Average: \$20,800)

EASTER PARADE (M-G-M)—MAST-BAUM (4,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 4th week. Gross: \$18,500. (Average: \$22,300)

IN OLD LOS ANGELES and I, JANE DOE (Rep.)—EARLE (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: \$12,500. (Average: \$22,500)

INTERMEZZO (SRO)—ALDINE (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: \$13,500. (Average: \$13,300)

KEY LARGO (WB)—STANLEY (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: \$42,500. (Average: \$22,800)

MAN-EATER OF KUMAON (U-I)—STANTON (1,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: \$8,600. (Average: \$11,200)

PARADINE CASE (SRO)—BOYD (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 5th week. Gross: \$13,600. (Average: \$20,300)

SO EVIL MY LOVE (Para.)—KARLTON (1,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: \$16,000. (Average: \$11,200)

STREET WITH NO NAME (20th-Fox)—KEITH (2,200) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: \$5,000. (Average: \$6,200)

TAP ROOTS (U-I)—GOLDMAN (1,400) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 3rd week. Gross: \$20,000. (Average: \$19,400)

THE PIRATE (M-G-M)—ARCADIA (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd run. Gross: \$6,200. (Average: \$4,700)

CHICAGO

Some 400,000 visitors are expected here during August, which partially accounts for the upswing in attendance. New coin-getters are "Melody Time" and "So Evil My Love," while "Key Largo" and "Emperor Waltz" continue a steady gait. Disappointing is the popular price run of "Best Years." Estimated receipts for the week ending August 5:

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—ROOSEVELT (1,500) (50c-65c-98c). Gross: \$16,500. (Average: \$18,000)

THE BIG CITY (M-G-M)—GRAND (1,150) (50c-65c-98c). Gross: \$11,000. (Average: \$11,500)

THE DUDE GOES WEST (AA-Mono.) and I WOULDN'T BE IN YOUR SHOES (Mono.)—APOLLO (1,200) (50c-65c-98c). Gross: \$10,000. (Average: \$14,000)

THE EMPEROR WALTZ (Para.)—CHICAGO (3,900) (50c-65c-98c) 3rd week. On stage: Harmonicats. Gross: \$54,000. (Average: \$53,500)

KEY LARGO (WB)—STATE LAKE (2,700) (50c-65c-98c) 2nd week. Gross: \$24,000. (Average: \$25,000)

MELODY TIME (RKO Radio)—PALACE (2,500) (50c-65c-98c). Gross: \$33,000. (Average: \$21,000)

NEXT TIME WE LOVE (Realtart) and HIGH SEAS (Realtart)—GARRICK (1,000) (50c-65c-98c). Gross: \$8,000. (Average: \$10,000)

THE PARADINE CASE (SRO)—WOODS (1,080) (98c) 3rd week. Gross: \$20,000. (Average: \$23,000)

SO EVIL MY LOVE (Para.)—UNITED

ARTISTS (1,700) (50c-65c-98c). Gross: \$20,000. (Average: \$20,000)

THE STREET WITH NO NAME (20th-Fox)—ORIENTAL (3,300) (50c-65c-98c). On stage: Keenan Wynn. Gross: \$48,000. (Average: \$45,000)

TORONTO

Exhibitors here partially benefited from Civic Holiday. There were two holdovers, including a sixth week of "The Fuller Brush Man" at Shea's. Estimated receipts for the week ending August 5:

ABBOTT AND COSTELLO MEET FRANKENSTEIN (U-I)—UPTOWN (2,761) (20c-36c-50c-66c-90c) 6 days. Gross: \$10,600. (Average: \$10,600)

THE FULLER BRUSH MAN (Col.)—SHEA'S (2,480) (20c-36c-50c-66c-90c) 6 days, 6th week. Gross: \$13,200. (Average: \$14,700)

MR. BLANDINGS BUILDS HIS DREAM HOUSE (SRO)—LOEW'S (2,074) (20c-36c-50c-66c-78c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: \$13,700. (Average: \$14,200)

NORTHWEST STAMPEDE (Intl.)—IMPERIAL (3,343) (20c-36c-50c-66c-90c) 6 days. Gross: \$15,100. (Average: \$14,600)

ONE NIGHT WITH YOU (E-L)—DANFORTH (1,400) (20c-36c-50c-60c) 6 days. Gross: \$6,000. (Average: \$6,500)

ONE NIGHT WITH DOLORES (E-L)—FAIRLAWN (1,195) (20c-36c-50c-55c) 6 days. Gross: \$5,300. (Average: \$5,500)

SO EVIL MY LOVE (Para.)—NORTOWN (950) (20c-42c-60c) 6 days. Gross: \$4,500. (Average: \$5,000)

SO EVIL MY LOVE (Para.)—VICTORIA (1,240) (20c-36c-42c-60c) 6 days. Gross: \$5,000. (Average: \$5,800)

THE STREET WITH NO NAME (20th-Fox)—EGLINTON (1,086) (20c-36c-50c-66c) 6 days. Gross: \$6,000. (Average: \$6,900)

THE STREET WITH NO NAME (20th-Fox)—TIVOLI (1,434) (20c-36c-50c-66c) 6 days. Gross: \$7,000. (Average: \$8,200)

Harry Pertner Returns

DETROIT, August 4.—Harry Pertner, a projectionist 15 years ago and manager of an auto shop ever since, has taken over the Rose Theatre. His official opening will be Sunday. One of Pertner's beliefs is that folks would like to see vaudeville revived, so he will have that plus films.

'Waltz' in Record \$225,000 Loop Run

Paramount's "Emperor Waltz" is expected to break all attendance records at the Balaban and Katz Chicago Theatre when it concludes a four-week run on August 12. Total gross is expected to reach \$225,000 or more. "Waltz" will play 12 outlying houses day-and-date on August 13 immediately following the Loop run.

O'Dwyer Guest of Eyssell

Mayor William O'Dwyer and Governor A. Whalen, chairman of the Mayor's Golden Jubilee Committee, will visit the Music Hall tonight for the opening performance of "Jubilee," the theatre's new stage revue by Leonidoff saluting New York's 50th anniversary. G. S. Eyssell, executive manager of Rockefeller Center and president and managing director of the Music Hall, will be host.

\$19,250 Opening at Roxy

Opening day of 20th Century-Fox's "The Walls of Jericho" at the Roxy Theatre here yesterday grossed \$15,050 by eight P.M., according to executive director A. J. Balaban, who estimated that the first day's figure would hit \$19,250. This would make it the biggest opening-day grosser of the year for the theatre, he said.

Conn. Tax Off Slightly

HARTFORD, August 4.—Connecticut tax commissioner Walter W. Walsh reports state amusement taxes in 1947-1948 amounted to \$104,422, compared to the 1946-1947 figure of \$104,876.

Television in Louisville

WAVE-TV, Louisville, Ky., television station, will begin operations on October 15 as an NBC affiliate.

When the phone r-i-n-g-s...



A beautiful woman is frozen with terror as she overhears plans for her own murder in Hal Wallis' thriller for Paramount—

"SORRY, WRONG NUMBER"

Accurate
Concise
and
Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

FIRST
IN
FILM
NEWS

NO. 26

NEW YORK, U. S. A., FRIDAY, AUGUST 6, 1948

TEN CENTS

More Trouble From Mexican Devaluation

Some US Companies Are Withholding Remittances

MEXICO CITY, August 5.—Contrary to earlier expectations of benefits accruing to the economically-plagued film industry in Mexico from the devaluation of the peso, adverse conditions have arisen which pose a serious threat to both American and Mexican film interests in this country.

The unsettled monetary situation resulting from the government's decision to devalue has induced most American distributors here to suspend making remittances to their home offices until the situation settles. However, a few are buying dollars at 6.25 to 6.50 pesos per

(Continued on page 4)

SG in Minneapolis And NCA in Deal

MINNEAPOLIS, August 5. — Local Screen Guild exchange and the board of directors of North Central Allied have approved in principle a six-month trial arrangement whereby NCA will receive a percentage of film rental collections for all SG product, new and old, played by NCA members. Actual percentage has yet to be determined. The move was motivated by SG here.

Abram F. Myers, national Allied's general counsel, admitted in Washington on Wednesday that there has been some discussion of a plan for Allied to acquire distribution rights to reissues, but "it has not been submitted as a national issue."

NCA Hails Ascap Ruling, Hits TOA

FARGO, N. D., August 5.—North Central Allied praised New York Federal Court Judge Vincent L. Leibel's decision in the Ascap case and condemned the society for failing to comply with North Dakota law requiring registration of its copyrighted properties, during a regional meeting held here today. Ben Berger, NCA president, urged exhibitors to refuse to pay license fees to Ascap pending final

(Continued on page 5)

Strike Closes MGM Studio at Ellstree

London, August 5.—An unexpected walkout of 70 members of the Electrical Trades Union today closed Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's Ellstree Studio. The strike occurred at the expiration of a one-hour ultimatum given to the management at lunch time, the men refusing to utilize the conciliation machinery of the film industry's trade union agreement. Subject of the argument was the recent discharge of two ETU members.

Some Settle Rockne Suit

Some defendants in the Rivoli-Rockne \$900,000 treble damage suit here have made an out-of-court settlement, it was disclosed today. Under terms of the agreement, handled by the plaintiff's attorney, Aaron Stein, both houses have been granted opportunity for preferred playing time against competing houses in addition to payment of attorney fees. Settlement was made with Paramount, 20th Century-Fox and Universal.

Warner Brothers and United Artists, both defendants, are expected to make settlements shortly pending preparation of papers.

It is understood the suit may continue against Essaness, defendants in the Rivoli case only, and Columbia, defendants in both suits.

Chicago Operators Win 10% Increase

CHICAGO, August 5. — Operators union Local No. 110 (AFL) today signed a five-year contract with all Chicago area houses which provides for a 10 per cent increase in wages.

Eugene Atkinson, business manager of the local, said the increase will not go into pay envelopes but into a fund which will provide disability benefits, retirement pensions of not less than \$100 a month for life, a vacation fund with two weeks' pay for each member and increased sick and death benefits.

Negotiations were conducted by Atkinson and Clarence Jalas, secretary-treasurer, representing the union, and by Eddie Silverman, Essaness president, and Morris Leonard, B. and K. official, representing theatre owners.

Ray Johnston Sells 8,000 Mono. Shares

WASHINGTON, August 5.—Stock transactions by officers and directors of motion picture companies was exceptionally light during the month ending July 10, according to the Securities and Exchange Commission's monthly report on such trading (released here today.)

Monogram's W. Ray Johnston sold 8,000 shares of common in five transactions, dropping his total holdings to 4,617 shares. Johnston also holds options for 12,500 shares of common. William B. Hurlbut sold 1,000 shares of Monogram common, leaving 3,029.

Howard Hughes, listed for the first time since he took over RKO, showed

(Continued on page 4)

"A Southern Yankee"

[M-G-M]—Red Skelton Raises the Roof

IF YOU thought Red Skelton was a boon to tired theatregoers in "The Fuller Brush Man" (and if you didn't you were out of sync with the present generation of paying customers) you'll be as pleased as the Hollywood preview crowd was, unanimously, to discover that you ain't seen nothin' yet. These hard-bitten minions of the press, starving of late on a steady diet of grim melodrama, and remembering unhappily M-G-M's handling of the Skelton talent in "The Show-Off" and "Merton of the Movies," arrived the other evening at the Academy Awards Theatre hoping for the best but prepared for anything—anything, that is, but the fastest, funniest comedy of this or any recent year.

When it was over they picked themselves up out of the aisles, pounded each other on the back like school kids who've just won a ball game, and were still talking about nothing much else for days. Happy days are here again, and they'll be back at your place when you play "A Southern Yankee."

It takes digging back into the yesteryears to find comparison, as to kind, for this all-purpose, all-level comedy. When it's slapstick, which is much of the time, it summons up memories of Harold Lloyd at his peak.

(Continued on page 4)

\$10,321,000 Warner Profit For 9 Months

Equals \$1.41 Per Share; \$7,400,000 for U.S. Taxes

Warner Brothers Pictures and subsidiaries report for the nine months ending May 2, a net profit of \$10,321,000 after provision of \$7,400,000 for Federal income taxes. Net for the nine months ending May 31, 1947, amounted to \$19,134,000, after provision of \$11,900,000 for Federal taxes.

Net for the 1948 period is equivalent to \$1.41 per share on 7,295,000 shares of common stock outstanding. Net for the corresponding period last year was equivalent to \$2.60 per share on 7,341,680 shares then outstanding.

Film rentals, theatre admissions, sales, etc., after eliminating inter-company transactions for the nine months ending May 29, 1948, amounted to \$112,415,000, compared with \$125,078,000 for the corresponding period in the previous year.

Gross income for the 1948 period amounted to \$117,592,222, as against costs and expenses of \$99,374,722, leaving a profit before charges of \$18,-

(Continued on page 4)

\$18 Million WB Backlog

Warner productions completed but not yet released total \$17,909,125 in negative costs, it is disclosed in the company's consolidated balance sheet released here yesterday by the home office.

Also listed among the inventories are productions in progress and charges to future productions, at a cost of \$8,738,967.

Fred Jack Reported In UA Division Post

Realignment of a part of United Artists' top sales personnel structure is anticipated in some quarters here, with Fred Jack, Southwestern district manager, reportedly slated for the post of Western division manager, vacated by the recent resignation of Maury Orr. Jack is in New York at present and is understood to be unofficially handling the Western post.

Personal Mention

MAX E. YOUNGSTEIN, Eagle-Lion advertising-publicity vice-president, is due back in New York Monday from visits to E-L exchanges.

VICTOR MEYER, city manager for RKO Radio in New Orleans, has retired after 44 years in show business. **JOHN DOSTAL**, former assistant manager of RKO in New Orleans, will return from Davenport, Iowa, to succeed MEYER.

MARTHA LOEFFLER of National Theatre Supply in Cleveland for the past four years, has resigned following her recent marriage to **CHARLES C. DIETHER** of Pittsburgh. Her successor at NTS is **TERESA MOTWICK**.

ANN REAGAN, daughter of Paramount distribution vice-president **CHARLES M. REAGAN** and **MRS. REAGAN**, has become engaged to **JOHN J. HAFFER, JR.**, of New Hyde Park, L. I.

GEORGE AYOTTE of the National Film Board of Canada has been awarded a fellowship by the French Embassy in Ottawa to enable him to study in France during 1948-1949.

PETER NILAND, Columbia salesman in Cincinnati, is resigning because of ill health. He will continue to operate his suburban Fairmount Theatre in that city.

MARYLIN MARDER, who has resigned her post with Paramount in Des Moines, has married **HERMAN SCHUCHMAN** of Iowa City.

A. CAPMAN, manager of the Selwyn Theatre, New York, has returned here from a vacation.

NORMAN LOURIE, president of Palestine Films, will fly to Tel Aviv today from New York.

JACK M. WARNER and his wife will sail today on the *SS Queen Elizabeth* for Europe.

ROBERT MOCHRIE, RKO Radio distribution vice-president, planned for New York from Hollywood last night.

SPYROS P. SKOURAS, president of 20th Century-Fox, left here last night by plane for the Coast.

GEORGE E. FREEMAN, manager of Loew's Poli in Springfield, Mass., is vacationing at Hampton Beach, N. H.

Hyde Resigns Post With U.S. Pictures

HOLLYWOOD, August 5.—Resignation of Donald Hyde, vice-president and general manager of United States Pictures, was disclosed here today by Milton Sperling, president of the company.

Hyde occupied his post for the past two years, and an option was recently exercised, to run another 18 months.

A. S. Abeles Weighs British Production

LONDON, August 5.—Arthur S. Abeles, Jr., recently appointed Warner London managing director, is probing the possibility of forming his own production team to turn out six pictures a year at an average maximum cost of £60,000 (\$240,000) at Warner's recently shuttered Teddington Studios. A long-term production program would be financed by Warner and Abeles is of the opinion that the pictures could earn comfortable profits by British distribution.

Reputedly disturbed not only at the high cost of British production, but at the methods employed, Abeles, under present conditions, does not look for an American outlet for British productions. He believes that there is an economic return in the domestic market for an economically made British film—but not if it is made under present conditions in many studios here.

Rank Has Theatre Size Television

LONDON, August 5.—J. Arthur Rank's Cinema Television has given a highly secret demonstration of theatre television on the screen of a theatre in Bromley, Kent, and the result was said to have been highly satisfactory with the definition of the image better than that of the normal newsreel on this occasion. The showing, under the supervision of A. G. D. West, Rank's principal television aide, used a BBC program which was re-transmitted from a central reception station at Crystal Palace.

It is hoped that some arrangement may now be arrived at with the government's advisory committee, enabling Rank to give big-screen television to paying customers. The government does not permit television reception in any place charging admissions.

27 Groups on Board Of 'Vet' Camp Shows

All 27 sponsoring organizations of Veterans Hospital Camp Shows have been given representation on the organization's board of directors. Among the entertainment industry groups represented are: Actors Equity, Ascapi, Association of Motion Picture Producers, Hollywood Coordinating Committee, IATSE, Screen Actors Guild, Screen Directors Guild, Screen Writers Guild, Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers and Theatre Owners of America.

'Hamlet' Here in Oct., At Park Ave. House

Laurence Olivier's "Hamlet" will open in New York at the Park Avenue Theatre about October 1, it was announced here yesterday by Universal-International, distributor of the film. All seats will be reserved during the entire engagement, with matinee and evening showings held daily, including Sundays, plus an additional matinee on Saturdays.

Theatre Cited for Civic Improvement

Unusual recognition for its contribution to the physical attractiveness of the neighborhood, has been accorded the Hamilton Theatre of Trenton, winner of a "Citation for Civic Improvement" from the Garden Club of New Jersey, in what is believed to be the first time a theatre has been singled out for such an award. The house is operated by Trenton-New Brunswick Theatre. James McAllister is manager.

U. N. Film Survey Covers 12 Markets

Results of a survey of the technical needs of films, radio and the press in 12 countries were received at United Nations headquarters at Lake Success. The data were compiled by field teams sent out by the UN's Educational, Scientific and Cultural organization. The complete survey covers 19 countries, but statistics received from Paris include only Pakistan, Austria, Hungary, Italy, India, Cuba, Mexico, Ecuador, Haiti, Peru, Uruguay and the Dominican Republic. A similar survey last year covered middle-European countries, the Balkans, China and the Philippines.

Film needs of each country are divided into categories such as film laws, exhibition, distribution, production, educational films, raw materials, equipment, professional training, etc.

IATSE Group to Cleveland Today

IATSE international president Richard F. Walsh, and other top officials of the union, will leave here today for Cleveland to prepare for the "IA" convention at Public Auditorium during the week of August 16. Other officials leaving for Cleveland are William P. Raoul, general secretary-treasurer; Thomas J. Shea, assistant international president; James J. Brennan, vice-president; Joseph D. Basson, international representative, and virtually the entire staff of the general office here.

On Monday at the Hollender Hotel the semi-annual meeting of the general executive board will begin. This meeting is expected to last several days, clearing the way for the convention.

M. C. Gay in State Dept. Film Post

WASHINGTON, August 5.—The State Department's new film expert, its fourth this year, took office today. He is Merrill C. Gay, who has been with the department's commercial policy division since 1943 and who headed two negotiating teams at last year's Geneva trade conference.

Gay says he has had contact with films on and off since joining the department. His predecessor was W. T. M. Beale who left the film post on Friday.

Hughes, Depinet in Talks on Operations

HOLLYWOOD, August 5.—Howard Hughes, RKO majority stockholder, and Ned E. Depinet, executive vice-president, began a series of conferences here yesterday believed to embrace the company's overall operations, new directorate and executive line-up. Depinet is expected to remain here several weeks.

New slate of directors is tentatively scheduled to be put before company stockholders at a meeting August 13.

NT Heads Outline Policies

LOS ANGELES, August 5.—Regional presidents of National Theatres, meeting here with Charles Skouras, company president, yesterday canvassed box-office potentials for fall and winter. Operations policies were shaped and plans for participation in "Youth Month" outlined. The meetings will continue through tomorrow.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center

"A DATE WITH JUDY"

Wallace BEERY • Jane POWELL
Elizabeth TAYLOR • Carmen MIRANDA
Xavier CUGAT • Robert STACK
A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

ALAN DONNA
LADD REED
in Person
PEGGY LEE
DAVE BARBOUR And His Quintet
JAN MURRAY
RAY CUCCHIAS
Extra Added Attraction!!
RAY EBERLE And His Orchestra
Billy Martin

BEYOND GLORY
A Great Love Story
That Comes Shining Through!

PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE MIDWINTER FEATURE NIGHTLY

Paramount Presents
RAY MILLAND
ANN TODD
GERALDINE FITZGERALD

in HAL WALLIS' production
"So Evil My Love"

DOORS OPEN 9:30 A. M. **Rivoli** 49th Street

ROY DEL RUTH'S **"THE BABE RUTH STORY"**
An Allied Artists Production
Starring **BENDIX-TREVOR**
CHARLES BICKFORD

ASTOR 45th St. Cont. Performances • Pop Prices

Cornel Linda Anne Kirk
WILDE DARNELL BAXTER DOUGLAS

"THE WALLS OF JERICHO"
A 20th Century-Fox Picture
ON VARIETY STAGE—**DICK HAYMES**
ON ICE STAGE—**CAROL LYNNE**
ARNOLD SHODA • FRITZ DIETL

ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

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EXCEPTIONAL EXPLOITATION PACKAGE TO PACK 'EM IN!

TWICE AS THRILLING
BECAUSE IT'S TRUE!

"URUBU"

Pronounced: OOR-A-BOO

THE VULTURE PEOPLE

SEE: A beautiful maiden in the hands of the horrible Urubu tribe!

SEE: Man against beast in a fight for survival!

SEE: Jungle warfare as poison arrows and venomous darts battle man's most modern weapons!

SEE: The horrible fate of a python's prey... the crushing coils of a slithering monster!

SEE: The most awful death that stalks at night... the blood-mad black panther!

PLUS

FILMED
BY
600
CAMERA
MEN!

"OLYMPIC CAVALCADE"

"Undoubtedly the greatest sport picture ever filmed!"

—Avery Brundage,
President American Olympic Committee

A Money Package thru UA!

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY correspondents. Estimates omit admission tax.

BOSTON

Warm, sunny weather with humidity continues unabated. Beaches and summer resorts crowded over the weekend. Night baseball still doing big business. Theatre business along the main stem was rather quiet. Estimated receipts for the week ending August 4:

A FOREIGN AFFAIR (Para.) and **SHAGGY (Para.)**—METROPOLITAN (4,367) (40c-80c) 2nd week. With personal appearance of Dr. I. Q. one night. Gross: \$19,000. (Average: \$27,000)

CANON CITY (E-L) and **LADY AT MIDNIGHT (E-L)**—PARAMOUNT (1,700) (40c-80c). Gross: \$14,000. (Average: \$17,000)

CANON CITY (E-L) and **LADY AT MIDNIGHT (E-L)**—FENWAY (1,373) (40c-80c). Gross: \$5,500. (Average: \$10,000)

EASTER PARADE (M-G-M)—ORPHEUM (3,000) (40c-80c) 3rd week. Gross: \$19,000. (Average: \$27,000)

EASTER PARADE (M-G-M)—STATE (3,500) (40c-80c) 3rd week. Gross: \$7,500. (Average: \$12,000)

MAN-EATER OF KUMAON (U-I) and **KING OF THE GAMBLERS (Rep.)**—RKO BOSTON (3,200) (40c-80c). Gross: \$6,500. (Average: None available on summer schedule)

MELODY TIME (RKO Radio) and **MYSTERY IN MEXICO (RKO Radio)**—RKO MEMORIAL (3,000) (40c-80c). Gross: \$17,500. (Average: \$22,000)

SAN FRANCISCO (M-G-M)—ASTOR (1,300) (40c-80c) 2nd week. Gross: \$4,200. (Average: None available)

TAKE MY LIFE (E-L) and **THE GREAT WALTZ (M-G-M)**—EXETER (1,300) (45c-85c). Gross: \$4,200. (Average: \$5,600)

SAN FRANCISCO

Vacation time took its toll this week with lower grosses in most instances. Top business was done at the Orpheum with "Frankenstein." Estimated receipts for the week ended August 4:

A DATE WITH JUDY (M-G-M)—WARFIELD (2,672) (60c-85c) 1st week. Gross: \$21,000. (Average: \$18,800)

A FOREIGN AFFAIR (Para.)—ST. FRANCIS (1,430) (60c-85c) 1st week. Gross: \$17,000. (Average: \$14,600)

THE BLACK ARROW (Col.) and **THE STRAWBERRY ROAN (Col.)**—ESQUIRE (1,008) (55c-85c) 1st week on a moveover. Gross: \$7,000. (Average: \$9,000)

DREAM GIRL (Para.) and **WATERFRONT AT MIDNIGHT (Para.)**—PARAMOUNT (2,735) (60c-85c) 1st week. Gross: \$16,000. (Average: \$19,500)

EASTER PARADE (M-G-M) and **THE WINNER'S CIRCLE (20th-Fox)**—FOX (4,651) (60c-85c) 3rd week. Gross: \$16,000. (Average: \$23,000)

FRANKENSTEIN (U-I) and **TAKE MY LIFE (E-L)**—ORPHEUM (2,440) (55c-85c) 1st week. Gross: \$21,000. (Average: \$14,700)

FOUR FACES WEST (UA)—UNITED ARTISTS (1,465) (85c) 2nd week. Gross: \$8,500. (Average: \$11,300)

MELODY TIME (RKO Radio)—RKO GOLDEN GATE (2,835) (95c) 1st week. Gross: \$21,000. (Average: \$27,000)

ROMANCE ON THE HIGH SEAS (WB) and **THE KNOCKOUT (Mono.)**—STATE (2,135) (60c-85c) 1st week on a moveover. Gross: \$4,500. (Average: \$8,500)

THE STREET WITH NO NAME (20th-Fox) and **BLONDE ICE (FC)**—UNITED NATIONS (1,129) (60c-85c) 3rd week on a moveover. Gross: \$3,000. (Average: \$9,900)

CLEVELAND

Baseball at home and on the air has cut into weekend theatre attendance

"A Southern Yankee"

(Continued from page 1)

When it's brainy as well as physical, it eases regrets about Charlie Chaplin having gone serious. In retrospect it recalls the Wallace Beery-Raymond Hatton "Behind the Front" of World War I and the Abbott-Costello "Buck Privates" of World War II.

BUT these comparisons, arrived at here in laborious substitution for direct description which couldn't do justice, are strictly generic in nature, and strictly *post mortem*, because there isn't time for comparisons, or anything else but laughing, during the picture.

The picture opens in St. Louis in 1865, with Skelton as a bungling bell-hop, steadfastly devoted to the Union cause and Union Army personnel which tenants the hostelry, who blunders into capturing a famous but unknown Confederate spy known as the Gray Spider. He turns him over to the Union commandant, who perforce commissions Skelton to cross over into Confederate territory with important papers for Union spies, and that's about enough of the story for present uses. It's all handled for laughs, although containing battle sequences staged as lavishly as those in "The Birth of a Nation." It rocks the auditorium with laughter from the opening flash to the final inch.

IT IS Skelton's picture all the way, with Arlene Dahl in charming part-time company as a Southern belle, Brian Donlevy present as a sort of Civil War smoothie working both sides of the street, George Coulouris as the Confederate spy, and Lloyd Gough, John Ireland, Minor Watson, Charles Dingle, Art Baker, Reed Hadley Arthur Space and Joyce Dobson in other castings.

Paul Jones produced the picture and Edward Sedgwick directed, from a script by Harry Tugend, based on an original by Melvin Frank and Norman Panama. How they managed to do it without laughing themselves to death is a mystery.

Running time, 91 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set. **WILLIAM R. WEAVER**

"The Spiritualist"

(Eagle-Lion)

A STORY of fakers who prey on the rich through spiritualism, this film with Turhan Bey, Lynn Bari and Cathy O'Donnell, stacks up as an interesting subject despite emphasis on the morbid. Played against a plush background, the film employs trick camera work to enhance the yarn's eerie and sinister qualities, aiding director Bernard Vorhaus in sustaining suspense throughout.

Based on an original by Crane Wilbur and written for the screen by Muriel Roy Bolton and Ian Hunter, it concerns Miss Bari, two years a widow but still living in the past in her search for happiness. She meets Bey, a spiritualist, who promises to make contact with her late husband despite the objections of Richard Carlson to whom Miss Bari is now engaged. During a seance her husband returns briefly. Later Bey finds that he is still alive after having murdered at least one previous wife, and the two enter into a pact to deprive Miss Bari and her sister, Miss O'Donnell, of the family fortune. Eventually they fail and both men are killed.

Since it is a story of death and a plan for murder, there is little to lighten the mood, while the romantic element of the picture plays but a minor part. However, in telling the story, the methods and operations of quacks are exposed and provide an interesting aspect of the picture. Ben Stoloff produced and George J. Teague handled the photographic effects.

Running time, 78 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, July 7.

with lower grosses reported at all first-runs. "Deep Waters" was the only new picture with drawing power, taking in \$14,500 at the RKO Allen. "The Street With No Name" held strong in its third week. Estimated receipts for the week ended August 3-4:

THE CRUSADES (Para.)—LOEW'S STILLMAN (1,900) (50c-70c). Gross: \$8,500. (Average: \$10,500)

DEEP WATERS (20th-Fox)—RKO ALLEN (3,000) (55c-70c). Gross: \$14,500. (Average: \$13,800)

EASTER PARADE (M-G-M)—LOEW'S STATE (3,300) (50c-70c) 2nd week, on a holdover. Gross: \$17,500. (Average: \$19,300)

IT HAPPENED ONE NIGHT (Col.) and **ONE NIGHT OF LOVE (Col.)**—LOWER MALL (563) (50c-70c). Gross: \$3,000. (Average: \$2,500)

MELODY TIME (RKO Radio)—RKO PALACE (3,300) (55c-70c). Gross: \$15,500. (Average: \$16,000)

ON OUR MERRY WAY (UA)—WARNERS' HIPPODROME (3,500) (55c-70c). Gross: \$15,000. (Average: \$15,000)

THE SEARCH (M-G-M)—LOEW'S OHIO (1,268) (50c-70c). Gross: \$6,500. (Average: \$6,200)

THE STREET WITH NO NAME (20th-Fox)—WARNERS' LAKE (714) (55c-70c) 3rd week, on a moveover after two weeks at the Hippodrome. Gross: \$5,000. (Average: \$3,600)

Take D.S.T. Fight to Michigan Court

DETROIT, August 5.—Michigan Supreme Court has been asked to enjoin the City of Detroit from presenting the question of Daylight Saving Time to the voters at the September 14 election, in an action brought by Independent Theatre Owners Association of Michigan, Greater Detroit Theatres, Inc., Oliver Amusement Corp., and other independent theatre owners.

It is contended that Eastern Standard Time was fixed by the legislature as the legal time for Michigan. Theatre men here maintain that they are adversely affected by the continuation of daylight time.

Mrs. Ida F. Giroux, 81

HOLLYWOOD, August 5.—Funeral services were held this morning in the chapel of Hollenbeck Home for Mrs. Ida F. Giroux, 81, who died Monday following a long illness. George R. Giroux, Technicolor field representative, is the sole survivor. Interment will be in Chicago, former home of the deceased.

Mexican Devaluation

(Continued from page 1)

dollar to get that money home. The pre-devaluation rate was 4.85 pesos per dollar.

Those American distributors which are buying dollars at the higher rate are understood to feel that it is better to take the present loss now instead of withholding remittances and taking a greater loss if the peso is further devaluated later.

Devaluation has hurt theatre business throughout Mexico because of the general uncertainties and price hikes on not only imported goods but on a number of Mexican items as well, despite official efforts to prevent price rises of Mexican products.

Devaluation provoked the first theatre strike in Mexico for that reason, at San Martin Texmelucan in Pueblo State. Employees demanded a 100 per cent pay hike, contending that their pay is far short of meeting living expenses caused by the money devaluation. Exhibitors say operating costs take 95 per cent of income, and wages take 67 per cent of those costs.

When devaluation was first effected it was expected that it would bring recovery of the Mexican industry from the slump into which it has fallen since the war's end.

Increased theatre patronage was also expected.

Ray Johnston Sells

(Continued from page 1)

ownership of 929,020 shares of common.

At Paramount, the F. K. Griffis trust is listed for the sale of 2,500 shares of common, with 3,500 remaining. Stanton Griffis is listed for 9,000 shares of common, the Nixon Griffis trust for 5,000, the W. E. Griffis trust for 2,800, and the T. G. Latouche trust for 4,500.

Paramount's Henry Ginsberg bought 500 shares of common, bringing his holdings to 1,000. His sons hold 400 shares.

At Columbia, A Schneider sold 25 shares; he has 10,028. Albert W. Lind bought 100 shares of Associated Motion Picture Industries, Inc., capital stock, making his total holdings 500 shares. Albert Warner gave 400 shares of Warner common to philanthropies. He has 428,000 shares. The Albert Warner trust shows a total of 21,000 shares. Jack L. Warner gave 2,000 shares to the United Jewish Welfare Fund, leaving 418,000. The Jack L. Warner trust is listed with 21,500 shares.

Warner Profit

(Continued from page 1)

217,500. Dividends of \$7,275,016 are reported.

Current and working assets as of May 29, 1948, are listed at \$67,455,726, against current liabilities of \$27,599,037.

Warner Dividend

Warner Brothers' board of directors yesterday declared a dividend of 25 cents per share, payable October 4, to holders of record on September 3.

Salt Lake Grosses Up

SALT LAKE CITY, August 5.—Despite hot weather, theatre grosses are above normal for this time of year, according to reports from showmen.

FCC Charting Rules To Bar Quiz Shows

WASHINGTON, August 5.—The Federal Communications Commission today leveled several strong blows which may eventually rule most radio "give-away" shows off the air and, in the eyes of some observers, be of some indirect aid to sinking theatre receipts.

The Commission invited comments by September 10 on proposed rules setting forth what programs violate the lottery section of the radio act. The FCC said it planned to consider a program in violation if any monetary or other type of prize were conditioned on the winner furnishing money or having a certain product of the show's sponsor; if he must be listening to the show; if he must answer correctly a question, the answer to which is given on a program broadcast by the station; or if he must answer the phone or write a letter and the conversation or letter is broadcast.

Covered by the rules would be standard, FM and television stations and practically all quiz programs, except those with no awards, would be affected, observers believe.

\$2,288,237 Net for Columbia Network

Net income of \$2,288,237, equal to \$1.33 per share, is reported by Columbia Broadcasting for the six months ended July 3, compared with \$2,919,507, and \$1.70 per share, for the corresponding period in 1947.

Gross 1948 income totaled \$48,816,986, or \$34,763,526 after deductions for time discount, agency commissions, allowances and other discounts. Comparable 1947 figures were: \$51,411,368 gross income, less \$13,202,644 for discount and commissions, leaving a gross of \$38,208,724.

WHN, Loew Station, Changed to WMGM

WHN, Loew's radio station in New York, will become WMGM on September 15, the change in call letters having been approved by the Federal Communications Commission. On that date the station will move to new studios. The move presages a closer working alliance with the M-G-M Coast studios from where some programs will emanate. Loew's frequency modulation station, WHN-FM, will become WMGM-FM, also on September 15.

FCC Approves 7 New Television Stations

WASHINGTON, August 5. — Federal Communications Commission has approved seven new television stations. They include: WSAZ, Huntington, W. Va.; WHIN, Lansing; Peoria Broadcasting Co., Peoria, Ill.; Fetzner Broadcasting Co., Kalamazoo; WSM, Nashville; Radio Service Corp. of Utah, Salt Lake City; Leonard A. Versluis, Grand Rapids.

Industry Broadcast Set

Columbia Broadcasting has set September 19 as the broadcast date for "The Hollywood Story," a program which will assay the social, economic and other factors which go into the selection and production of a major film.

Review

"Variety Time"

(RKO Radio)

"VARIETY TIME" is virtually a vaudeville bill of odds and ends, some new, some segments from old films, including a number of items from the Flicker Flashbacks series of shorts released by RKO. The effect is intended solely for the benefit of those whose tastes in entertainment are easily satisfied, for this is extremely commonplace stuff. The film makes no pretense of offering anything more than an hour of fun to be quickly forgotten.

Emphasis is on comedy of the simplest sort, often descending to unabashed, old-fashioned slapstick as in the case of a painful sketch detailing the trials of Edgar Kennedy in trying to build an extension to his home.

In addition to the Kennedy and Flicker Flashbacks clips the entertainment includes acts featuring Frankie Carle and his orchestra, Pat Rooney in a soft-shoe dance, Jesse and James in a blackface routine, Leon Errol in a comedy of marital entanglement, Lynn, Royce and Vanya in a comedy dance routine, Hans Conreid and Jack Paar in a French song burlesque and Miguelito Valdes in a "Babalu" number. George Bilson produced. Hal Yates directed the Kennedy and Errol numbers.

Running time, 59 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set. P. E. L.

Additional Drive-ins Sprout Across Nation

Drive-in theatres under construction or planned in addition to those previously reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY follow:

Joseph A. Cremisino and H. E. Clark are sponsors of new projects at Rochester, Minn., and Sioux Falls, S. D., and have plans for St. Cloud, Minn. Nat Williams, head of Interstate Amusement Co., has opened the Hi-Wa Drive-In, costing \$75,000, at Thomasville, Ga. Toronto has a new drive-in, its second, at nearby Malton, site of the city's air terminal. New in the business, F. Chase Hathaway has opened near Hoosick Falls, N. Y., and Harry Lamont has opened at Mayfield, N. Y. The latter operates drive-ins at Middletown and Lake George, both in New York.

\$200,000 Project for Downey

One of the costliest drive-ins in the country is the \$200,000 job of E. R. Cummings, head of Exhibition Enterprises, at Downey, Cal., served out of San Francisco. Joseph Blumenfeld Theatres opened two projects, at Stockton, and Marin, Cal. The old Riverside Racetrack near Kansas City is the site of that area's newest drive-in, operated by Commonwealth Theatres. That circuit has engaged Jack D. Braunagle to handle its drive-in projects. The new Duwamish Drive-In between Seattle and Tacoma is jointly operated by John Danz and William Forman.

One of the most extensive drive-in programs contemplated is the 27 drive-ins planned by Walter Reade Theatres to be opened in 1948 and 1949, in the Mid-Atlantic States, principally in New York and New Jersey, as previously reported. A corporation headed by Eugene Boragine, Henry J. Rehault and Dr. Dominico Santoro is operating at Cascades, Me. Mrs. Rose Chilypan and her son-in-law, Sarkes Arakelian, have a new drive-in, the Riverview, on the Haverhill-Lawrence, Mass., Boulevard, with accommodations for 500 cars, on Route 110.

Negro Drive-in in Charlotte

Additional Simplex Projector equipment orders have been serviced for drive-ins at Great Bend, Kans.; South Glens Falls, N. Y., and Russells Point, O. Philip C. Cahill of Wethersfield, Conn., and Louis B.

Rogow of Hartford are the backers of a new project at Wolcott, Conn. Nashville's first car-theatre is operated by Crescent Amusement Co., at nearby Murfreesboro. R. E. Baluch is president. Charlotte Negroes have a new \$40,000 drive-in for 400 cars. The Gulfport-Biloxi, Miss., territory is the locale for another of the South's many drive-ins.

Ralph Trathen is general manager of Associated Amusement Co. which recently opened offices on Salt Lake City's Film Row out of which it will operate an expanded drive-in program in the mountain area, where it already manages several. Samuel Slotnick and Sam Gandel are partners in the Parkway, new Rochester, N. Y., drive-in at nearby Canandaigua, with a capacity for 700 cars, expandable to 1,500. Newest Ezell Drive-In Theatre Co. property is the Buckner Boulevard, Dallas, which has a play beach for children, a snack bar, etc.

Additional new drive-in installations are located at Peoria, Ill.; Weatherford, Tex.; Victoria, Tex.; Lamesa, Tex.; New Castle, Pa.; Elkhart, Ind.; Wallingford, Conn.; Stony Hill, Mass.; Atlanta; New Orleans; Baton Rouge, La.; Cumberland, Md.; Whitfield, Ga.; Salisbury, N. C.

Ochs Expands Drive-ins

TORONTO, August 5.—Herb Ochs of Toronto and Cleveland has opened the third automobile theatre in Ontario of Skyway Drive-In Theatres, Ltd. The latest unit, under the management of Gordon White, is located at Britannia Bay in Eastern Ontario. The company is constructing other theatres at Oshawa and Peterboro.

Loukos Acquires Two

LIMA, O., August 5.—Allen and Majestic Theatres, for a long time owned and operated by George Ritzler, have been acquired by Don F. Loukos, formerly with Warners and more recently manager of the two houses.

Plan Film on Railway

Story of the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway will be dramatized in "Canadian Pacific," a \$1,000,000 production starring Randolph Scott, to be a Nat Holt production released through 20th Century-Fox.

8,000 Philco Video Sets Due Weekly

PHILADELPHIA August 5.—Current production of television sets by Philco exceeds 4,000 per week and by the fourth quarter they will exceed 8,000 per week, or 400,000 a year, according to William Balderston, president, who reports that Philco's dollar output in television will go beyond its radio production by the end of the year.

Total sales of all Philco products for the first half of 1948 were at \$124,617,000, compared with \$107,941,000 last year. Earnings for the six months amounted to \$4,215,000. Earnings for the same 1947 period were \$2,237,000.

Building Materials Increased Sharply

WASHINGTON, August 5.—Production of major construction materials increased sharply in May—latest month for which figures are available—to bring the physical volume of production to the highest point this year, according to the U. S. Commerce Department. Production of 10 materials actually declined, but the output of major items such as lumber, cement, brick and selected iron and steel products all increased.

Hails Ascap Ruling

(Continued from page 1)

decision in the New York and Berger cases against Ascapi.

Thirty-eight exhibitors present also scored the Theatre Owners of America for what they called its "weak-kneed and reactionary" failure to recommend halting further Ascapi payments.

Berger was also authorized to name a committee to appear at the January meeting of the state legislature to combat the municipal admission tax "craze" in this state.

NCA executive director Stanley Kane addressed the meeting on the recent Supreme Court decision in the Paramount case.

Neben on 'Photoplay' Ads

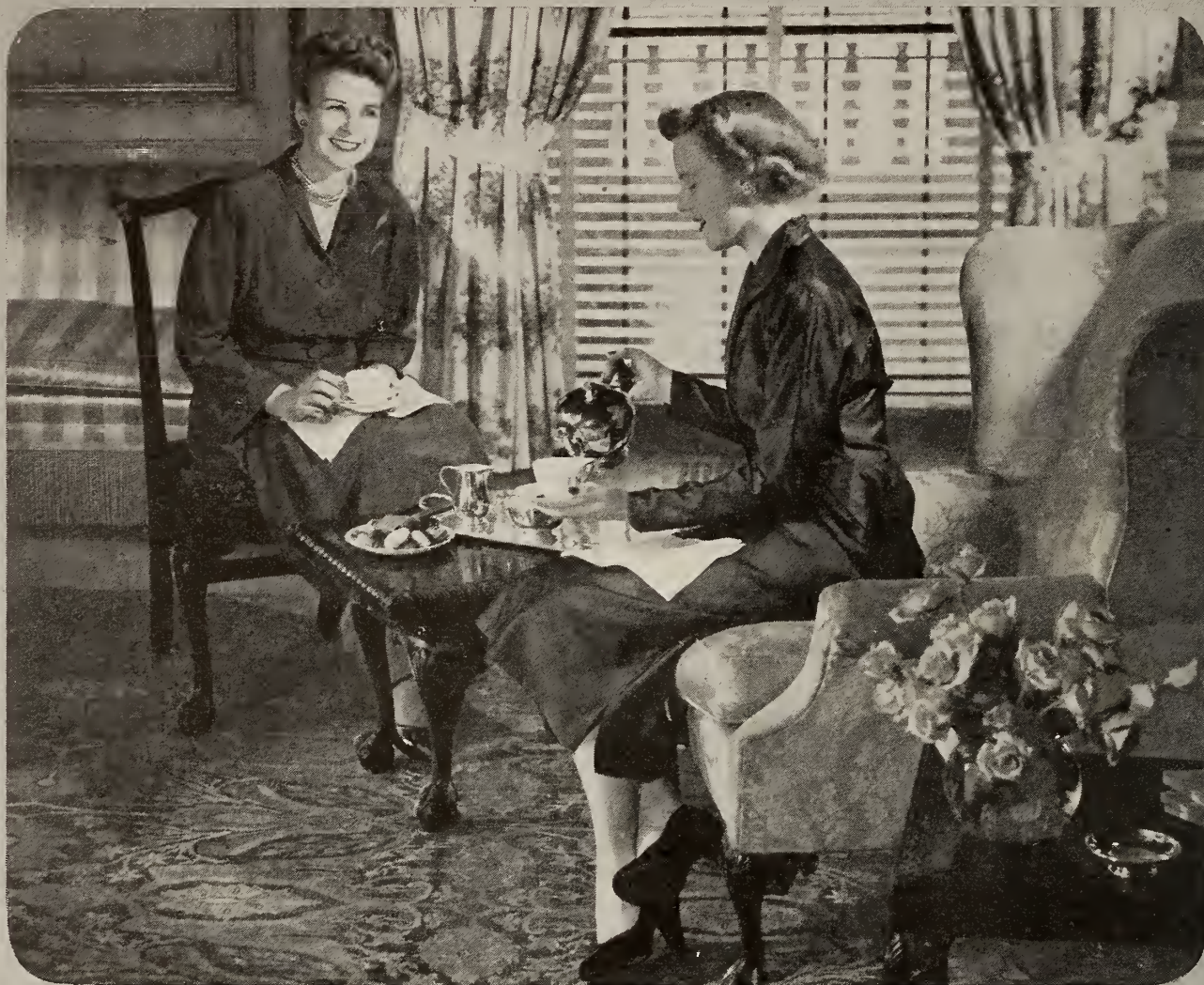
Jacqueline Neben has been appointed promotion manager of Photoplay magazine, by Fred R. Sammis, editorial director. Miss Neben will handle both advertising and editorial promotion of Photoplay and Photoplay Fashions, as well as the magazine's publicity. With Macfadden Publications for the past six years, she was previously a copywriter and assistant to Herbert G. Drake, director of promotion.

4 Premieres for WB Film

DALLAS, August 5.—Local premiere of Warners' "Two Guys from Texas" will be held tomorrow night at the Majestic Theatre. Dennis Morgan, Jack Carson and Dorothy Malone, who star in the film, are on hand for the opening. The picture opened at the Majestic in Houston tonight at the second of a four-city Southwest premiere.

'Duel' at Venice Exhibit

On invitation of the Italian government, David O. Selznick's "Duel in the Sun" has been entered along with other American films in the Venice Festival which takes place August 14-September 4. His "Since You Went Away" and his production of Alfred Hitchcock's "Rebecca" will be entered in the special division of the exhibit.



Artist with chintz and Chippendale...

WHEN this room says "home, sweet home" to movie-goers, it also speaks in praise of its creator—the man who dressed the set so understandingly.

For his was the feeling for fabrics and furniture that gave the set its "lived-in" look... that made it so truly convey time and place, and catch the spirit of the actors' roles.

Whether an interior is modern or medieval, penthouse or "poverty row," the set dresser's artistry makes its atmosphere authentic.

An important contribution, this—and one that is reflected to the full by faithful photographic reproduction... unfailingly provided by Eastman's famous family of motion picture films.

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NEWS

L. 64. NO. 27

NEW YORK, U.S.A., MONDAY, AUGUST 9, 1948

TEN CENTS

AFL Invades CIO's Ranks At Paramount

Move Follows IATSE's Drive at United Artists

A deeper drive into the ranks of CIO's Screen Office and Professional Employees Guild at home offices was launched at the weekend at Paramount by AFL's IATSE Motion Picture Home Office Employees Local No. H-63, thus marking the second invasion of SOPEG's territory since H-63's campaign at United Artists.

Spearheading the H-63 drive at Paramount is a committee of 20 employees, composed of SOPEG members as well as non-SOPEG members. According to Russell Moss, H-63 business agent, "a gratifying number of cards were signed by employees" on the first day of the H-63 drive on Friday. Application to the National Labor Relations Board for a representation election will be made as soon as H-63 has a substantial majority, Moss declared.

One reason given for the switch to "IA" has been SOPEG's refusal to

(Continued on page 3)

38 Named to TOA Convention Group

John Balaban and Eddie Zorn, chairman and vice-chairman, respectively, of the general convention committee of the Theatre Owners of America, have named 38 members to the reception committee for the two-day session which will be held September 24-25 in the Drake Hotel, Chicago.

From exhibitor ranks in the Chicago area the following were appointed: W. K. Hollander, N. M. Platt, D. B. Wallerstein, Frank Smith, Aaron Jones, Edwin Silverman, James Coston, Jack Rose, Arthur Schoenstadt,

(Continued on page 3)

Ploeser Maps Slate For 'Monopoly' Quiz

WASHINGTON, August 8.—Rep. Ploeser, chairman of a House Small Business Committee investigating monopolistic and unfair trade practices, has tentatively approved a schedule of road hearings this fall which will go into practically every

(Continued on page 3)

'IA' Meet Will Highlight Taft Bill Attack

CLEVELAND, August 8.—Impetus to the IATSE's drive for repeal of the Taft-Hartley labor law will be stressed at the organization's week-long general executive board meeting which will open here tomorrow at the Hollenden Hotel, and at its 39th convention which will start one week from tomorrow at Cleveland's Public Auditorium.

William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor; Eric A. Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association of America, and Thomas J. Herbert, Governor of Ohio, top the list of labor leaders, industry executives and public officials scheduled to attend the convention, with International president Richard F. Walsh presiding.

Throughout the week, more than 1,100 delegates will arrive. They are

(Continued on page 3)

Report on Studio Strike Due Today

WASHINGTON, August 8.—The House Labor Committee tomorrow may write "finis" to the work of the Kearns sub-committee investigating the Hollywood jurisdictional strike.

Rep. Kearns has been working feverishly over the weekend, it was learned, to have a report ready to present to the committee at a meeting tentatively set for tomorrow.

According to the plans of committee chairman Hartley (R., N. J.) approval of the report by the full committee will end the investigation without further hearings on any other proceedings. Kearns has been holding out for further hearings.

Empire-U to Amend Writ in Rank Suit

TORONTO, August 8.—Gordon D. Conant, senior Master-in-Chambers at Osgoode Hall, has granted permission to Empire-Universal Films, Toronto, and other plaintiffs, to amend their writ and statement of claim against J. Arthur Rank and others in their prolonged action for \$2,000,000 in damages.

The order was issued providing the plaintiffs pay all costs of defendant Rank arising out of the previous order of the court, dated March 12, 1947.

(Continued on page 3)

Canada's Admissions Are on the Decline

OTTAWA, August 8.—The Canadian government reports that a nationwide survey shows theatre admission prices in this country dropped from 134.5 per cent in May to 130.9 per cent in June, on the basis of the period of 1935-39 being equal to 100 per cent. The decline in part is attributable to tax cuts in some regions where provincial governments did not replace the national tax abandoned by the Dominion some weeks ago.

From other sources it is learned that admission scales may show a further decline for July.

British May Expand In Canadian Market

OTTAWA, August 8.—Some interesting developments are expected to result for the motion picture industry in Canada following the disclosure that the United Kingdom will allow British companies to invest in establishing branches in Canada provided that it "can be shown to be advantageous in relation to our (British) dollar position."

As far as the film business is concerned, it is believed here that British film interests may organize operations on Canadian soil to increase their business in the Dominion.

It is known that Canadian financial institutions are now ready to aid such schemes.

Popcorn Crop Is 51% Above 1947

WASHINGTON, August 8.—The U. S. Agriculture Department reports that present indications are that the 1948 acreage of popcorn planted in the 12 commercial producing states will be about 51 per cent larger than the 1947 acreage. Motion picture theatres are among the biggest purchasers of popcorn.

The increase follows two successive years of decrease, the department points out.

Weather since planting has been favorable for good growth and development, the department reports.

Estimated plantings of 126,700 acres this year compare with 83,700 in 1947 and the 10-year 1937-46 average of 125,960. More acres were planted in all major producing states except Iowa.

United Artists Realigns Top Selling Force

Two Division Managers Under Paul Lazarus, Jr.

A realignment of top sales posts at United Artists was indicated at the weekend with Joseph J. Unger said to be resigning as sales manager. That post is to be eliminated and sales will be directed jointly by Edward Schnitzer, continuing as Eastern division manager, and Fred Jack promoted to Western division head. Unger could not be reached for comment.

Paul N. Lazarus, Jr., executive assistant to Gradwell Sears, UA's president, will function as liaison between Sears and the two divisions. Additionally, Lazarus still will continue an active interest in the advertising-publicity department of which he had been director until his recent promotion. Howard LeSieur now is advertising-publicity director.

Jack will continue to maintain his headquarters in Dallas where he has been Southwest district manager. Both

(Continued on page 3)

Long Files Second Suit Against Schine

CLEVELAND, August 8.—An anti-trust action was filed here at the weekend against the Schine circuit by Lockwood Thompson, co-counsel with Seymour Simon of Chicago, representing Emerson W. Long of Mt. Vernon, and Cadiz, Ohio. Suit is practically identical with the one recently filed in Columbus by Long against Schine, both charging that the latter's buying power prevents Long from securing suitable product. Latest suit seeks treble damages of \$345,000 plus costs.

Urges Non-payment Of Ascap Seat-tax

Boston, August 8.—Ray Feeley, executive secretary of the Independent Theatres of New England, states that all members have been notified to cease payments to Ascap until the position of exhibitors is cleared in the situation arising from Federal Judge Vincent L. Leibell's New York decision declaring Ascap's collections illegal.

Personal Mention

CHARLES SKOURAS, National Theatres president, is due here today from the Coast en route to Washington to participate in ceremonies on Wednesday in connection with PRESIDENT TRUMAN's proclamation of September as "Youth Month."

SAM COHEN, United Artists foreign publicity manager, and **MRS. COHEN**, accompanied by their youngest son, **MICHAEL**, will observe their 25th wedding anniversary with a two-week visit to Canada and Niagara Falls.

WILLIAM A. SCULLY, Universal-International vice-president and general sales manager, and **MAURICE A. BERGMAN**, Eastern advertising-publicity director, left here on Friday for Hollywood.

ED MOREY, JR., and **MRS. MOREY** are parents of a daughter, **KATHLEEN**, born at St. Joseph's Hospital in Burbank, Cal. **MOREY**, an assistant director at Monogram, is the son of the company's vice-president.

THOMAS E. BREEN, son of Production Code administrator **JOSEPH I. BREEN**, appears in the role of "Denis Mulvy" in M-G-M's "Luxury Liner," soon to be released.

HUGH OWEN, Paramount Eastern and Southern division sales manager, will be in Boston today for branch conferences.

CHARLES SCHLAIFER, 20th Century-Fox advertising-publicity director, has left here for Omaha due to the illness of his father.

WILLIAM B. LEVY, worldwide sales supervisor for Walt Disney Productions, has returned to New York from the Coast.

F. W. DUVAL, Motion Picture Association of America treasurer, begins a one-week vacation today at Sea Girt, N. J.

LORETTA MCGARRITY of the *Motion Picture Herald* editorial staff has become engaged to **FRANK DIXON**.

LEO M. BRODY, Eagle-Lion publicity manager, will leave here today for a vacation in the South.

EDWARD A. GOLDEN flew to Chicago from New York at the weekend en route to Dallas.

Fadiman Heads RKO Story Department

HOLLYWOOD, August 8.—Under a realignment effected by the executive committee managing the RKO studio pending the August 31 board meeting, **William J. Fadiman**, who had been functioning as editorial assistant to **Dore Schary**, has been named story editor, and **Edgar Peterson**, who had been **Schary**'s production assistant, has been given a writer status.

Tradewise . . .

By **SHERWIN KANE**

OUR colleague, "Insider" **Red Kann**, told you the other day of the difference in views between Paramount and **E. V. Richards** of Paramount-Richards Theatres, New Orleans, over what constitutes a proper rental for Paramount product. It is in the same vein with disputes which **Richards** had earlier with M-G-M and Universal, with the result that neither sells to **Richards**.

Now, if you can believe the stories, it's **RKO**'s turn with **Richards**. **RKO**, so the story goes, felt that competitive bidding would be the best way to sell in **Richards**' territory. **Richards** is supposed to have replied, maybe some places but not all. **RKO** is adamant and no deal was struck.

Lucky for **Richards** they don't double-feature in the South.

After more than 20 years in the Times Square area, the industry law firm of **Schwartz & Frohlich** has moved uptown—not to Radio City or the upper 50's, but to 19 East 70th, select residential neighborhood. **Sterling Drug Co.** bought the building in which the law firm formerly occupied a tower floor, and refused to renew leases. Unable to find suitable quarters anywhere in mid-town, **Charlie Schwartz** and **Louis Frohlich** started looking afiel and ultimately purchased the 70th Street building.

The six-story and penthouse building is the former residence of **David H. Morris**, Ambassador to Belgium during the Roosevelt administration. Although re-decorated and re-furnished, the residence has undergone a minimum of remodeling and is pretty much in its original state.

The first floor dining room is now the firm's law library. On the second floor, front, the former library of the residence has become **Schwartz**'s office, and to the rear, the former drawing room is now occupied by **Frohlich**'s office. Crystal chandeliers, hand-carved ceilings, Italian marble fireplaces, marble window and door frames distinguish the rooms. On the upper floors are the offices of other members of the law firm, and the clerical, business and filing rooms. Most of the offices have private baths (there are 12 baths, in all) and most have

fireplaces. Quite a few have terraces.

In addition to solving the housing problem for the law firm, the new quarters are likely to remain unique in the business for a long time to come. Zoning ordinances protect the primarily residential character of the area.

Reports were around last week that in addition to the loss of patronage and refunds during the recent cooling system engineers' strike, due to theatre picketing and higher temperatures inside, the five-day lay-off was costly to metropolitan neighborhood theatre circuits in other ways. Large blower fans were purchased in quantities and many theatres had the foresight to purchase seat covers. Those that didn't, according to the reports, were confronted with claims for soiled clothing by patrons who said the finish on seats in some theatres came off in the hot auditoriums.

Some estimates place the five-day losses at approximately the amount of the increase in dispute.

Operating Engineers Local 30, which figured in the strike, is known among industry labor negotiators as one of the fairest and most restrained in the industry. For example, it didn't even call upon brother **AFL** theatre unions, such as the projectionists, to respect its picket lines while on strike.

Visitors from the Coast assert that Judge **Stephen S. Jackson**, former member of the Production Code Administration in Hollywood, is planning to open his own office for the practice of law there, and is not thinking of coming to the MPA New York office in a legal advisory capacity, as announced at the time of his resignation two weeks ago.

The trade interprets **Ascap**'s retention of **Robert P. Patterson**, former Secretary of War, former U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals judge, and president of the New York Bar Association, as special counsel to handle the theatre collections case as ample evidence, if any were needed, that **Ascap** will appeal from Judge **Vincent Leibel**'s decision holding its theatre collection method to be in violation of the anti-trust laws.

Newsreel Parade

THE "Red" hearings in Washington and the Olympic Games dominate current newsreels. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 63—Hearings in Washington on Red spies in U. S. U. S. athletic stars shine in London Olympic Games. Unions strike in Dayton. Dock fire at Long View, Wash. President Truman votes.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 297—munists in the U. S. exposed by feds. Red. Olympic story: victories for U. S. stars.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 100—Teenage statesmen: boys visit Washington. America dominates Olympics.

UNIVERSAL NEWS, No. 167—Official pictures of Olympic Games: Yanks gain in track and swimming.

WARNER PATHE NEWS, No. 102—Youth forum meets. Birthday fashions for the young. U. S. Olympic teams smash to victory. Great events: Lincoln-Douglas debate.

Senate Group Sets Broadcasters Probe

WASHINGTON, August 8.—A study of every aspect of the broadcasting industry from alleged lobbying activities to patent controls and frequency allocations was listed today on the extensive agenda of a special Senate committee charged with investigating communications.

Committee chairman **Tobey** (R., N. H.) said that the group would give "particular attention" to deciding whether the National Association of Broadcasters actually represents the 2,000 stations in the U. S. when it takes a stand on legislative matters, and whether **NAB** spokesmen should be registered as lobbyists. The agenda also includes a survey of the powers and policies of the Federal Communications Commission.

NAB Video Group To Convene on Friday

WASHINGTON, August 8.—A television advisory committee of the National Association of Broadcasters' board of directors has been appointed by **Justin Miller**, **NAB** president. The new committee will hold its first meeting on Friday at the Palmer House in Chicago.

The meeting will follow by two days a gathering, also in Chicago, of **NAB** television broadcaster members.

\$3 - Million DuMont Stock Issue Offered

Allen B. DuMont Laboratories on Friday offered to the public 150,000 shares of five per cent cumulative convertible preferred stock, \$20 par, the \$3,000,000 to be used for the company's expansion in television. **Van Alstyne Noel Corp.** and **Gearhart and Co.** head the underwriting group.

INS Service to Don Lee

Expansion of the International News Service spot news and feature photo packages to service television clients on the West Coast has been completed with the signing of **KTSL**, **Don Lee** television station in Los Angeles.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone Circle 7-3100. Cable address: "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo J. Sullivan, Vice-President and Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; Gus H. Fausel, Production Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 120 South La Salle Street, Editorial and Advertising. Urban Farley, Advertising Representative; Jimmy Ascher, Editorial Representative. Washington, J. A. Otten, National Press Club, Washington, D. C. London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1. Hope Burnup, Manager, Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; Theatre Sales; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, \$6 in the Americas and \$12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

Seized 16mm. Prints Arrive in New York

More than 10 16mm. prints of some 66 features recovered from a merchant seaman in San Francisco by the FBI and the U. S. attorney in that city have been received here from the Coast by the Army Motion Picture Service. Features of all major companies were among the seized pictures.

The films were recovered as a result of an investigation by the FBI in co-operation with the industry's Copyright Protection Bureau. They were from among the thousands turned over by the film companies to the armed services as the industry's contribution to the war effort.

Sargoy and Stein, special counsel to the industry in Copyright Protection Bureau matters, played a part in the recovery.

Warner Holds Four 'Texas' Premieres

Mort Blumenstock, Warner vice-president in charge of advertising-publicity, will return to New York today from the four-city world premiere engagements of the company's "Two Guys from Texas," in San Antonio, Houston, Dallas and Oklahoma City.

Each opening was preceded by an extensive campaign covering a radius of over 80 miles of each city. Dennis Morgan, Jack Carson and Dorothy Malone made personal appearances. Newspaper correspondents from over 50 outlying cities covered the events.

Wants Cleanliness, Humor in Film Fare

WASHINGTON, August 8. — Rep. Clare Hoffman, Michigan Republican, inserted into the *Congressional Record* on Friday a long plea for "cleaner and more amusing pictures," declaring that the industry would be rewarded for such a program by larger box-office receipts.

Hoffman commented on an article by Roy Norr, public relations counsel formerly with the Motion Picture Association of America, in *Salute* magazine entitled "The Man in Hollywood's Hottest Seat."

Kirsch Heads Drive

CHICAGO, August 8.—Jack Kirsch, Illinois Allied president, has accepted the post of chairman of the theatre and entertainment division of the Community Fund Drive. Assisting him will be A. J. Shumow, Warner branch manager in Chicago. Appointments of sub-chairmen will be announced shortly. Citywide quota for the 1948 drive is \$8,679,000.

TOA Convention

(Continued from page 1)

Jack Kirsch, and George Kerasotes. Named from distributing companies were the following: James Donahue, J. Harold Stevens, Jack Lorentz, Tom Gilliam, H. Greenblatt, S. Gorelick, Bill Bishop, W. E. Banford, W. Devaney, R. Crambley, N. Nathanson, Sam Horowitz, Harry Mandel, Ben Lowery, Harry Seed, A. J. Shumow, Irving Mandel, Ben Eisenberg, Ed Heiber, Clarence Phillips, Max Roth, Ed Spiers, M. Gottlieb, L. Berman, W. Baker, A. Fischer, and Henri Elman.

Review

"A Friend Will Come Tonight"

(Lopert Films)

THIS is definitely one of the lesser of the French films to come to the United States since the war's end. A worthy cast topped by Michel Simon, that sterling French thespian, proves impotent in raising the level of "A Friend Will Come Tonight" as entertainment.

The picture runs much too long and is so full of glaring mistakes and illogical story developments that the considerable promise inherent in its basic plot is immediately lost. It is a strange tale of a group of maquis—French fighters of the underground—who sought refuge in a lunatic asylum. Among them is the leader for the district. A young doctor turns out to be a German spy. The girl he is in love with and who does not suspect his identity revenges herself by revealing herself to be Jewish. Through it all, the underground fighters do their best to confuse the audience by acting most convincingly as lunatics. Simon is the only bright spot in the picture and even he is given dialogue that would stump the best actor.

An A. C. G. C. (Paris) Production, the film was directed by Raymond Bernard, who in many instances threw continuity to the wind.

Running time, 93 minutes. Adult audience classification. Current release.

'Monopoly' Quiz

(Continued from page 1)

part of the country, it was learned today. Several of the hearings will be in Allied States strongholds such as Minneapolis, Detroit and Kansas City. Allied has been working closely with the House group, pressing for a thorough investigation of the practices of the "big five."

No hearings have been scheduled yet on the West Coast, so that the Society of Motion Picture Producers, which has also been working with the committee, may have to come to Washington to get the committee's ear.

The schedule follows: September 3, Butte, Mont.; 8, Casper, Wyo.; 11, Salt Lake City; 15, Kansas City, Mo.; 17, Omaha; 20-21, Minneapolis; 23, Madison, Wisc.; 27, South Bend; October 1-2, Detroit; 5, Louisville; 8, Oklahoma City; and 12, Houston. Hearings in Chicago, Philadelphia, New York and Washington will be off until after the elections, it was understood.

No witness list has yet been drawn up for any of the hearings, which will be conducted by a sub-committee headed by Rep. Stevenson (R., Wis.)

Empire-U Writ

(Continued from page 1)

Otherwise the application to amend the writ is dismissed.

The original action claimed \$1,000,000 damages for alleged breach of contract and an additional \$1,000,000 against nine defendants for allegedly inducing breach of contract and for conspiracy.

Defendants comprise Rank, J. Arthur Rank Organization, General Cinema Finance Corp., Universal Pictures, International Pictures, United World Pictures of New York, Eagle-Lion Films, Inc., Eagle-Lion Films of Canada and Canadian Monogram.

Plaintiffs Empire-Universal Films and United World Pictures of Canada claim diversion of a group of Hollywood pictures to other companies for distribution in Canada and Newfoundland.

Kaufman Quits U-I

HOLLYWOOD, August 8.—J. L. (Les) Kaufman, advertising director of International Pictures prior to its merger with Universal, resigned this weekend from his post with Universal-International. He was previously associated with Republic and Fanchon and Marco.

U. A. Realignment

(Continued from page 1)

he and Sears left for Chicago on Friday for conferences at the UA office in that city, after which they will leave for the Coast for negotiations with Fox West Coast on deals for "Red River," "Pittfall" and "Time of Your Life."

Mark N. Silver, who had been Pittsburgh, Washington and Philadelphia district manager, has been named assistant to Eastern division manager Schnitzer.

Jack Wrege, formerly assistant to Maury Orr who resigned recently as Western division manager, will become assistant to Jack, and act as his representative at the home office.

Clayton Eastman has resigned as district manager for Boston, New Haven and Buffalo.

Must Open Books in Percentage Actions

Judge John C. Knox on Friday granted Loew's and RKO Radio the right to inspect books and records of Rhinehook Theatres and Millerton Amusement Corp. in the percentage suits brought here by the two distributors. The period covered is January, 1942, to January, 1948.

The court also granted a similar motion to Loew's in a percentage suit against the Stern-Levy circuit.

Silberberg Signs Roffman

Nathan Silberberg, Palestine film distributor who is entering production in Palestine, has concluded a contract with Julian Roffman to direct his first feature to be filmed in Palestine, using all Palestinian acting talent. It will be bi-lingual using English and Hebrew. Production is scheduled to begin early in the fall. Silberberg will leave New York late this month for Tel-Aviv.

'Carmen' Promotion Set

A pattern has been devised for promoting Columbia's "The Loves of Carmen," with leaders in many fields not associated with motion pictures to be identified with various phases of the campaign, principally in merchandise tieups with manufacturers.

New Italian Film Here

American and Canadian rights to "The Spirit and the Flesh," described as the first post-war romantic Italian picture, has been purchased by Variety Film Distributors, New York.

Walkout Is Halted at MGM Elstree Studio

LONDON, August 8.—Operations at M-G-M's Elstree Studio have resumed following last week's unexpected walkout of 70 members of the Electrical Trades Union. The strike was called off after union officials conferred with the strikers and then with the studio management.

Normal negotiations between union officials and management have been resumed with the latter insisting that two ETU members over whom the dispute arose were justifiably dismissed because of their continued refractory behavior.

Suspend Sales Pact Talks for 10 Days

Negotiations for the first national salesmen's contract with 11 distributors have been suspended to allow the Colosseum of Motion Picture Salesmen and the distributors committees to give an interim report to their respective organizations. Meetings on the pact will be continued in about 10 days.

IATSE Meeting

(Continued from page 1)

scheduled to hold 14 district conventions at the Hollenden on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, prior to the start of the International gathering.

Walsh, pointing out that sponsors of the Taft-Hartley Act gave a distorted picture as to the power of labor leaders in America, has publicly invited members of the 80th Congress to attend the convention. "They will find," he said, "that the duly-elected delegates are our supreme government." Joseph D. Keenan, head of Labor's League for Political Education, will be among the speakers for repeal of the law.

Problems facing labor on an international scale will be brought into focus through the presence of Tom O'Brien, member of the British Parliament and general secretary of that country's National Association of Theatrical and Kine Employees. Along with Walsh, who visited England last summer, he will report on the interchange of British and American technical workers.

AFL Invades CIO

(Continued from page 1)

file with the NLRB an affidavit certifying, as required by the Taft-Hartley Law, that none of its officers are Communists. This has deprived the union of access to NLRB advantages.

Involved in the Paramount unit are approximately 600 employees. Included are employees of Famous Music Co. and Long Island Laboratories, both Paramount subsidiaries.

Aiding Moss in the Paramount organizational drive are Joe Conlon, H-63 organizer, and James Rogers, "IA" international organizer.

I.C. Oes Art in Exhibition

George Jensen's Fifth Avenue art gallery in New York is currently exhibiting a display of paintings by Ingvald C. Oes, film industry pioneer of 40 years, starting in 1908 with Nordisk Film Co. in Copenhagen. He opened Paramount's offices in the Scandinavian countries and for years was that company's Scandinavian publicity director. He has since retired to paint.

THE SOUTHWEST'S MIGHTIEST EVENT!

**IN 25 YEARS
ONLY THREE!**

"THE COVERED WAGON"

"CIMARRON"

**and NOW
HOWARD
HAWKS'**

RED RIVER

Monterey Productions present

HOWARD HAWKS' Production "RED RIVER" starring **JOHN WAYNE · MONTGOMERY CLIFT**

400 theatre day-and-date

! FOUR-STATE WORLD PREMIERE AUG. 26th

OVER



WALTER BRENNAN • JOANNE DRU

with **HARRY CAREY, Sr. • COLEEN GRAY • JOHN IRELAND •**
NOAH BEERY, Jr. • HARRY CAREY, Jr. • PAUL FIX

From the Saturday Evening Post story,
"The Chisholm Trail", by Borden Chase
Screenplay by Borden Chase and Charles Schnee
Executive Producer, Charles K. Feldman

• Directed and Produced by HOWARD HAWKS
Released thru UNITED ARTISTS

engagements!

now thru UA

Artist Hirschfeld recreates the uproarious rough-house when the GI's throw discretion to the wind—and Jean Arthur to the ceiling—

That FUNNY Affair
is a MONEY Affair
in
LOS ANGELES
and
HOLLYWOOD



where neat figures go up and business is "Excellent" says Variety and where every review is a rave with Los Angeles Examiner's Ruth Waterbury reporting that with "Such gay laughter . . . such sizzling romance . . . such superb acting, I wouldn't be surprised if it sticks around until Christmas."

JEAN ARTHUR
MARLENE DIETRICH
JOHN LUND

in

"A Foreign Affair"
is a funny affair

with

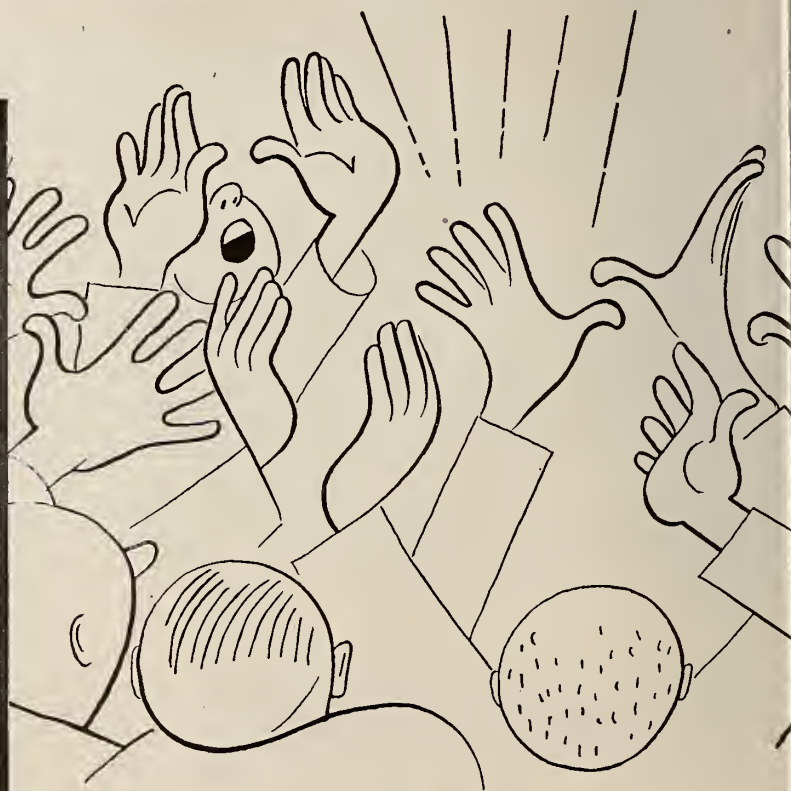
Produced by

MILLARD MITCHELL • CHARLES BRACKETT

Directed by **BILLY WILDER**

Screenplay by Charles Brackett, Billy Wilder and Richard L. Breen

Adaptation by Robert Harari • Original Story by David Shaw



**A PARAMOUNT
SUMMER HIT-
WAVE HIT!**

Accurate
Concise
and
Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

DO NOT REMOVE

FIRST
IN
FILM
NEWS

VOL. 64. NO. 28

NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, AUGUST 10, 1948

TEN CENTS

British Gov't Finance Plan Includes Rank

Report Money Not Just For Hard-Pressed Firms

LONDON, August 9.—Board of Trade president Harold Wilson's planned Films Finance Corp. which had been proclaimed as being dedicated to the assistance of hard-pressed independent producers will have dealings with all top-scale distributors, including J. Arthur Rank's General Film Distributors, it is indicated here. It is expected that the independents will strenuously object to the government's financing being made available to Rank, who doubtless requires no help. Others in the industry also fear that this new move is aimed to give the government an even more active role in the business.

Further cause for concern is the re-
(Continued on page 2)

2,600 Seek Quota Relief in England

LONDON, August 9.—Sub-committee of the British Board of Trade has already received 2,600 exhibitor applications for relief under the Quota Act which directs that they reserve 45 per cent of their top-picture playing time for British product, according to a BOT spokesman. The act prescribes certain relief for theatres competing with circuits.

It was reported that 1,600 of the applications have been examined with 900 of these found to qualify for relief. The remaining 700 can still appeal to the Board's film council.

IA Restrained on Debut of WJZ-TV

A five-day stay to prevent IATSE Local No. 1, stagehands, from interfering with tonight's debut of WJZ-TV with a televised program of entertainment from the stage of the Palace Theatre was granted here yesterday by Federal Judge Samuel Kaufman to Charles T. Dowds, regional director of the National Labor Relations Board. Argument on the restraining order will be heard on Thursday.

American Broadcasting filed charges of unfair labor practices with the
(Continued on page 2)

Withhold Ascap Fee, 2 More Units Urge

Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana, Indianapolis, and Allied Rocky Mountain Independent Theatres, Denver, have joined the growing roster of exhibitor organizations urging members to stop paying Ascap for music production rights.

Says ATOI in a bulletin to members: "Until such time as there is further clarification of this situation, especially as to appeal, it is unwise for exhibitors to enter into any further contracts or make any further payments to Ascap."

N. J. Allied to Meet Smith on Peace Plan

A committee to act on the Berger-North Central Allied-20th-Fox conciliation plan was appointed here yesterday at a meeting of members of Allied of New Jersey. Named by Ed Lachman, president, were Irving Dollinger, chairman, Wilber Snaper and Lou Gold. This trio was instructed to get together with Andy W. Smith, Jr., 20th-Fox's distribution chief, to discuss the conciliation plan with the idea of its possible adoption by Jersey Allied.

A recommendation was made at the meeting to have members withhold payment of fees to Ascap and decline to sign new contracts with the society pending clarification of the situation resulting from the Federal Court decision finding Ascap guilty of violating the anti-trust laws.

George Gold, legislative chairman of Jersey Allied, was given instructions on his appearance today before the Trenton hearing on bingo legislation to voice opposition to the bill.

Plans for Jersey Allied's annual outing at West End Casino, West End, N. J., on August 24, also were taken up at the meeting.

Corwin and Lesser Buy 4 Coast Houses

HOLLYWOOD, August 9.—Sherrill Corwin and Sol Lesser have completed a deal, which bogged down some months ago, for the purchase of controlling interest in the four Music Hall theatres. Deal represents the acquisition of Joe Blumenfeld's half interest and one-half of United Artists' interest, the latter retaining 25 per cent. Properties are set to change hands on Friday.

New U.A. Sales Posts to Jack And Schnitzer

Secrecy of Bidding Aided By MGM Plan

Edward M. Schnitzer and Fred Jack have been raised to the newly-created posts of Eastern and Western general sales managers, respectively, of United Artists, following the resignation yesterday of Joseph J. Unger.

Announcement of the complete reorganization of the U. A. sales structure was made by Paul N. Lazarus, Jr., who, as executive assistant to Gradwell L. Sears, president, will maintain policy and administrative supervision of the distributing firm's sales operations. This move will free Sears for greater concentration on corporate affairs and the securing of product, the company said.

Jack, former Southern district manager, will maintain headquarters in
(Continued on page 3)

H-63 Reports Gains; SOPEG Denies Them

Gains were reported here yesterday by IATSE Motion Picture Home Office Employees Local No. H-63, in its drive into the ranks of the Screen Office and Professional Employees Guild at Paramount's home office.

According to Joe Conlon, H-63 organizer, application cards were "coming in encouragingly" from employees. Conlon reiterated that an application to the National Labor Relations Board for a representation election would not be made until H-63 has a substantial majority.

Meanwhile Sidney Young, SOPEG president, discounted reports of H-63 progress and asserted that "they will never be able to get sufficient cards to represent the employees."

Opposes Loop Runs Of Over Two Weeks

CHICAGO, August 9.—Thomas McConnell, attorney for the Jackson Park Theatre here, filed an appeal today in U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals from Judge Michael Igoe's order permitting Paramount's "The Emperor Waltz" to remain four weeks at the Chicago Theatre instead of the two-week limit imposed by the Jackson Park decree.

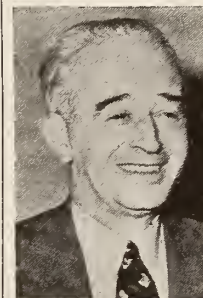
Although "Waltz" will complete its four-week run at the theatre on Thursday, McConnell said he hopes by the appeal to prevent future exceptions to the decree being made. He charged the District Court lacked jurisdiction to grant the exception.

Bids to Be Kept Sealed Until After Deadline

M-G-M branch managers have been instructed by the home office to keep all competitive bids received for the company's product

sealed until the day following the deadline for their receipt, at which time they are to be opened in the presence of office associates.

The new instructions for handling bids were revealed by William F. Rodgers, vice-president in charge of distribution, at



William F. Rodgers

a luncheon attended by trade press representatives here yesterday.

Rodgers said the new method, patterned after procedure used by the
(Continued on page 3)

MGM Field Men to Visit Home Office

M-G-M is extending its policy of bringing its men in from the field for familiarization with company operations and policies at the home office, W. F. Rodgers, vice-president in charge of distribution, announced here yesterday.

Heretofore, district managers have been spending a month at the home office, in rotation. Now the home office indoctrination course is to be extended to branch managers, book-
(Continued on page 3)

'Foreign Losses Need Not Affect US Profit'

CHICAGO, August 9.—Loss of revenue from the foreign market need not seriously affect profits in the domestic market, declared Dore Schary, Metro's new vice-president in charge of production, during a stopover here enroute to New York for conferences with Nicholas Schenck, the Loew president. Schary affirmed that good
(Continued on page 3)

Personal Mention

ROBERT MOCHRIE, RKO Radio distribution vice-president, has returned to New York from the Coast.

DORE SCHARY, M-G-M production vice-president, who arrived in New York at the weekend, was guest at a home office executive luncheon yesterday. He is scheduled to meet the trade press today and will leave for the Coast tomorrow.

JOSE A. CORDERO, son of Trans-Continental Films president **J. A. CORDERO**, and his bride, the former **RUTH REIMAN** of Vienna and New York, are honeymooning in England and France.

SIDNEY FRANKLIN, M-G-M producer, and his wife are due here tomorrow from the Coast. They will sail for South America on Friday.

JAYNE MEADOWS, Samuel Goldwyn actress, has flown to Rome from New York where she will be married to screenwriter **MILTON KRIMS**.

J. MYER SCHINE, his wife and their son, **DAVID**, and **DONALD SCHINE** and his son, **LOUIS**, will arrive here tomorrow from Europe.

ERIC JOHNSTON, Motion Picture Association of America president, is due back in Washington Thursday from the Coast.

MAX E. YOUNGSTEN, Eagle-Lion advertising-publicity vice-president, will leave here today for New Orleans.

RICHARD POWERS, head of the M-G-M studio music department, is here from the Coast.

NORMAN ELSON, Trans-Lux vice-president, left here yesterday for Chicago.

Charles Bryant, 67

MOUNT KISCO, N. Y., August 9.—**Charles Bryant**, 67, retired film and stage actor, died here Saturday at Northern Westchester Hospital. Born in England, he came to this country in 1912 and appeared on the stage, following which he acted in films. He produced and appeared in "Dagmar" in 1923 and produced "The Right to Kill" in 1927. Survivors include the widow, a son and a daughter.

Bob Murphy Is Dead

HOLLYWOOD, August 9.—**Bob Murphy**, 59, former vaudeville and screen performer, who operated the filmland restaurant known as the House of Murphy, is dead here of pneumonia.

Second Capitol Jackpot

Second jackpot of \$7,500 in the "Stop the Music" quiz show at the Capitol theatre here was won by **Robert M. Singer** of New York. This makes two jackpot winners amounting to \$12,500 at the Capitol in one week.

Phila. Syndicate to See Warner on Offer

PHILADELPHIA, August 9.—The recently formed local syndicate headed by **William Ehrenberg** has oversubscribed the \$5,000,000 initial deposit which it plans to offer **Warner Brothers** for its theatres in this area, it was disclosed here. A decision is expected by the end of the month.

Meanwhile, the committee of seven which has scheduled a trip to California to confer with **Harry M. Warner**, Warner president, has been held up awaiting the return of several of its attorneys who are presently in Europe for the Olympics.

Among members of the syndicate of 14 are **James R. Cromwell**, **David Demany**, president of a large fur chain, and **Mrs. Robert Irwin Brown**, prominent society matron, according to **Ehrenberg**.

If the deal goes through no large-scale changes are expected to be made in the local organization.

Steinberg Winner Of Reisman Drive

Winners of the **Phil Reisman** sales drive of RKO Radio follow: First prize, Peru, **Erich Steinberg**, manager; second, Egypt, **Gregory Georgoussy**; third, Siam, **William Palmer**. Special "Top Men" prizes went to **T. S. Ananth**, India; **John M. Eddy**, Venezuela; **Jose M. Henriques**, Brazil; **Austin Levy**, Australia; **C. E. McGuinness**, Belfast; **Armand Palivoda**, Switzerland; **Michael Drachousoff**, Belgium; **Goesta Friberg**, Stockholm; **L. R. File**, London; **Don Jellie**, Brisbane; **C. P. Lee**, Hong Kong; **Ricardo Madrigal**, Cuba. In the 16mm. class, **Ned Seckler**, Brazil, and **William Palmer**, Siam, shared honors.

The competition, which covered 31 foreign branches, was for the period starting April 4 and ending July 3, 1948. **Robert Hawkinson** served as chairman and **Marc Spiegel** as drive chairman.

Texas Independent Sues 11 Companies

DALLAS, August 9.—Twelve circuits and distributors are up against another Federal Court suit involving their methods of distributing to Dallas theatres, damages of \$41,000 being asked by the **H. and B. Theatres, Inc.** of Temple, Texas.

Listed as defendants are **Interstate Circuit**, **Loew's**, **Paramount**, **RKO Radio**, **20th Century-Fox**; **20th Century of Texas**, **Warner Brothers Pictures** and **Warner Brothers Distributing Corp.**, **Columbia**, **Universal Corp.**, **United Artists** and **Robb and Rowley**.

Dinner for Niland

CINCINNATI, August 9.—**Peter Niland**, who is resigning as Columbia city salesman because of impaired health, was guest of honor tonight at a testimonial dinner given by the **Cincinnati Variety Club**, Tent No. 3. **Niland**, who is president of the **Cinema Club of Cincinnati**, which he was instrumental in organizing, entered the industry 33 years ago.

Attempted Film Ban Disturbs British

LONDON, August 9.—Producers here are disturbed at the reported attempt of the anti-British **U. S. Sons of Liberty** to prevent British screenings in New York. Producer **Herbert Wilcox** has declared that "this open warfare will inevitably lead to serious situations unless stopped."

Wilcox added that "if the sabotaging continues, a resentful reaction to American films is almost certain in England."

5 to Advise US on Foreign Program

WASHINGTON, August 9.—President **Truman** today named the members of the five-man advisory commission set up under the **Smith-Mundt Act** to advise the State Department on its foreign information program, including motion pictures, newsreels, radio and publications.

Chairman will be **Mark Etheridge**, publisher of the **Louisville Journal**. Members include **National Association of Broadcasters** president **Justin Miller**, **General Electric** chairman **Philip D. Reed**, **Christian Science Monitor** editor **Erwin D. Canham**, and **Mark A. May**, director of the **Yale Institute of Human Relations**.

U. K. Finance Plan

(Continued from page 1)

port that a Board of Trade committee is investigating the desirability of the government's requisition of film studios or the construction of them. The committee's report is anticipated next month.

The corporation which the government intends to create will have \$20,000,000 available to distributors who in turn would finance production in part. It is understood that **J. H. Lawrie**, head of the corporation's organizing committee, has been directed to exact full security from the distributors.

Receiving Licenses Are Up in Britain

LONDON, August 9.—Number of publicly-held broadcast receiving licenses in force in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at the end of June was 11,260,350, according to the **Postmaster General**.

This number includes 54,850 television licenses, an increase of 2,350 over the previous month.

Rank Aide Coming Here

LONDON, August 9.—**Sydney Wynne**, personal assistant to **J. Arthur Rank**, will leave here on the **S.S. Queen Mary**, August 25, on his first visit to America. The trip will be mainly a vacation. **Jock Lawrence**, vice-president of the **J. Arthur Rank Organization** in the U. S., will accompany **Wynne** to New York.

E-L Answers SPG Contract Notice

Eagle-Lion has notified the **Screen Publicists Guild** of its readiness to negotiate a new contract, becoming the first company to respond to the notices sent out by **SPG** a week ago. The **SPG** contracts with the companies will expire on September 26.

Meanwhile the **SPG** will hold a meeting here Thursday evening to formulate new contract demands with all companies.

IA Restrained

(Continued from page 1)

NLRB on the grounds that since July 15 the union had sought to have employees of the **Palace** and of the **New York Telephone Co.** deny their services for the occasion.

The **IA** assertedly demanded that half of the technical help used in connection with the telecast be from that union's ranks.

Films Aid Canada

OTTAWA, August 9.—The **Canadian National Film Board** is understood to be co-operating closely with government departments and industries to sell Canadian trade outside this country through the use of films. These films are now being shown to an annual audience estimated at 70,000,000 in 60 different countries.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
"A DATE WITH JUDY"
Wallace BEERY • Jane POWELL
Elizabeth TAYLOR • Carmen MIRANDA
Xavier CUGAT • Robert STANCA
A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

ALAN DONNA LADD REED
in Person
BEYOND GLORY
A Great Love Story
That Conquers
Shining Through
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

ROY DEL RUTH'S "THE BABE RUTH STORY"
An Allied Artists Production
ASTOR 45TH ST. Cont Performances • Pop Prices

RAY MILLAND ANN TODD GERALDINE FITZGERALD
in HAL WALLIS' production
"So Evil My Love"
DOORS OPEN 9:30 A. M. SCIENTIFICALLY AIR CONDITIONED **RIVOLI** 8'way & 49th Street

MGM Bidding

(Continued from page 1)

Government and other industries which use bidding processes, is designed to eliminate the chance of "leaks" occurring before a bidding deadline has expired. The company, he said, has no knowledge that "leaks" have occurred, but the new procedure is expected to eliminate the possibility they might.

Bidding in 150 Situations

Rodgers reported that M-G-M is now receiving bids in approximately 150 situations and the number is increasing steadily. He said the company is not seeking competitive bids but will consider them wherever they are received. Bidding, he said, has solved some problems of product supply which could not have been handled satisfactorily otherwise, and he believes it has averted some litigation. On the other hand, he pointed out, there is no product security for exhibitors in bidding and occasional hardships result, both from loss of product and from unwise bidding. The company has endeavored to discourage the latter, Rodgers said.

Occasionally, he said, competitors who have indulged in over-zealous bidding will get together and agree on a split of the product, whereas prior to bidding, a division of the product was a rare occurrence among competitors.

Rodgers said the company is studying all clearance complaints received from exhibitors as well as those reported by branch managers as being "out of line."

Conciliation System Is Effective

He said the company's conciliation system is working well and he sees no need of changing to another conciliation method. Exhibitor leaders, he said, may take up any complaint, including film rentals, with M-G-M branch managers on behalf of exhibitors and meritorious complaints will be adjusted.

Rodgers said he preferred the old industry arbitration system, which utilized men experienced in the industry as arbiters, and said he believed the system would be beneficial in handling and solving the many new problems which confront exhibitor and distributor today.

MGM to Handle Film On Negro Problems

CHICAGO, August 9.—Louis de Rochemont, addressing the annual convention of the National Association of Visual Education here today, disclosed that his new documentary film, "Lost Boundaries," will go into production soon for release by M-G-M, and will be the first film of its kind to deal with problems of the Negro.

De Rochemont said there is a lack of good films for school use and affirmed that the basic plan for each educational film should be conceived by teachers rather than producers.

The Film Council of America, Educational Film Library Association and the Midwest Forum are also holding meetings in conjunction with the NAVED convention.

Claim \$20,000 for 'Canon'

"Canon City" grossed \$20,000 at the Boston Paramount Theatre, Eagle-Lion stated yesterday, and not \$14,000 as estimated here on Friday.

Review

"Hollow Triumph"

(Eagle-Lion)

PAUL HENREID becomes the victim of his own ingenious scheming in "Hollow Triumph," a well-told melodrama to which Eagle-Lion has given a full scale production treatment. Joan Bennett takes the feminine lead, with others in the cast including Leslie Brooks, Eduard Franz and John Qualen. For a film in its category, it has easily exploitable virtues. The story builds up suspensefully, the sequences are briskly paced, and the direction and camerawork are workmanlike and competent. It will not please those looking for high-brow entertainment, but it does have mass appeal.

After being released from prison, Henreid and his gang muscle into rival territory, only to find that the underworld now has them marked for revenge. Henreid takes flight and conceals himself in honest jobs. One day, however, he discovers that he resembles a successful psychiatrist, and in a flash, sees his escape from the underworld's pursuing revenge. Henreid kills the psychiatrist and assumes his identity. He is quite successful at first, but soon finds the disadvantages outweigh the advantages. In an ironic ending, Henreid is murdered for a crime committed by the psychiatrist. Henreid assumes the dual role, with Miss Bennett playing the secretary to the psychiatrist as well as lover to the undisguised Henreid. Acting is adequate all around. There are many fine, little touches in the screenplay by Daniel Fuchs. Henreid also produced; Steve Sekely directed.

Running time, 83 minutes. Adult audience classification. For August release.

MANDEL HERBSTMAN

Schary

(Continued from page 1)

pictures can still gross domestically \$4,000,000 and more. "Good pictures have an audience any place, any where," he said.

Schary said it would be "premature" at this stage to regard television as a potential threat to the film industry. He said he would like to make more pictures like "Joe Smith, American" which he produced for Metro several years ago for \$160,000 and which grossed \$1,000,000. "Star value in a picture," he said, of course is important. Had "Joe Smith" had box-office names it would have grossed an additional million, he observed.

Schary will spend three or four weeks in conferences with Schenck and Louis B. Mayer on the Coast before he makes any definite production plans.

He is now reading a batch of story properties that have been on Metro's shelves for a number of years with an eye to future production. He said, however, that the company will continue to look for new story buys.

According to the new studio chief, Metro will not affiliate itself on any regular plan for releasing product by independent producers although, he added, the company will not be averse to another "State of the Union," produced by Liberty Films which Metro released.

Hollywood's recent economy wave would not necessarily end M-G-M's plans for future \$3,000,000 productions, according to Schary. The company he said, had the resources to make million-dollar productions providing market conditions and the story property warrants it.

MGM Field Men

(Continued from page 1)

ers, salesmen and others. They will spend a week or two at the home office.

The first contingent to be called in under the new policy consists of Louis Formato, Philadelphia branch manager; Ansley B. Padgett, assistant branch manager at Atlanta; Philip F. Gravitz, office manager and head booker at New Haven, and salesmen Michael J. Ford, Chicago; H. Russell Gaus, Oklahoma City; Louis Marks, Cleveland, and Louis J. Weber, Dallas.

First Capital Price Cut Made in a Year

WASHINGTON, August 9.—First admission price cut here in a year was announced by Sidney Lust's Hippodrome. Evening adult prices, Monday through Sunday, were dropped from 85 cents to 65. Saturday matinees from 85 cents to 40, and Sunday matinees from 85 cents to 65. Weekday matinees remain at 40.

Amend Cincinnati Arbitration Award

An award by the American Arbitration Association, on appeal by Loew's, has been modified to give Cincinnati first-runs and the Emery Theatre in Reading, O., a clearance maximum of 35 days after conclusion of first-runs over the Vogue Theatre, Wyoming, O.

The original ruling directed that neither the Vogue, complainant in the case, nor the Emery should have clearance over the other and availability to both should be 29 days after first-runs. Loew's was the only distributor named.

UA Sales Posts

(Continued from page 1)

Dallas. Schnitzer will continue to operate from the home office.

Schnitzer's added responsibilities include a projected series of field meetings with U. A. sales personnel.

Lazarus stated that under the new sales set-up greater autonomy will be given to individual branch and district managers.

Dinner for Richardson

CLEVELAND, August 9.—Robert Richardson, recently named local Eagle-Lion branch manager, will be guest at a testimonial dinner to be held here on Friday. Richardson was formerly connected with the local RKO Radio sales force.



When the phone r-i-n-g-s...

Millions will remember the spine-tingling radio play that set an all-time record when it was brought back 7 times for network rebroadcasting.

Now this vast audience awaits Hal Wallis' production for Paramount—

"SORRY, WRONG NUMBER"

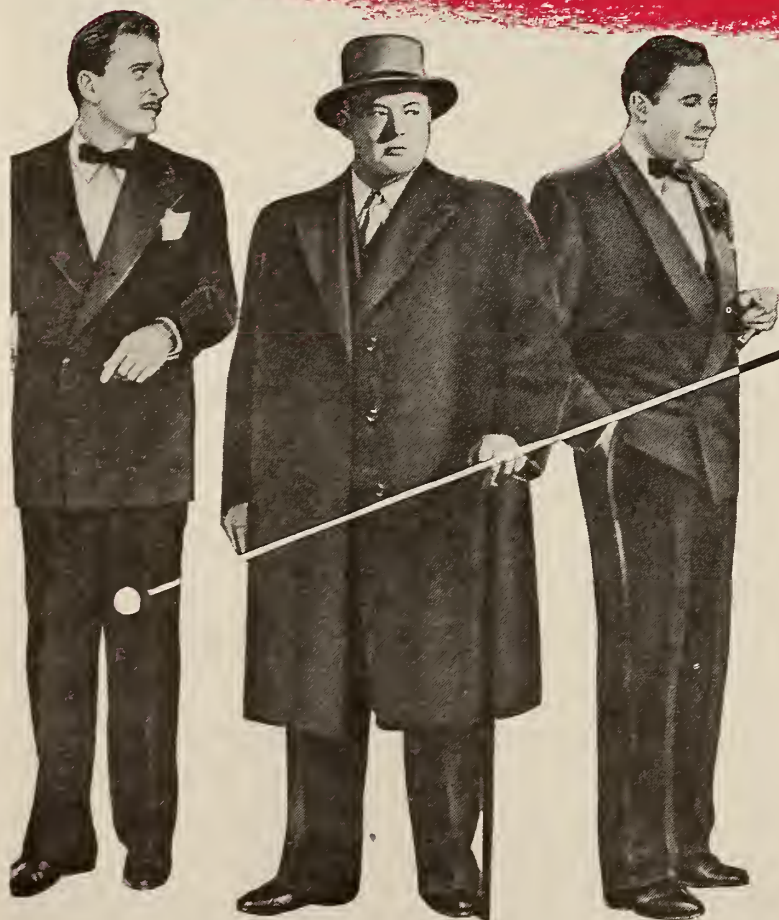
Rosalind... GAY, GLAMOUROUS, DANGEROUS

...in the intimate story of Broadway's most exciting actress, who played her most enticing scenes
OFF STAGE!

ROSALIND RUSSELL

in

THE VELVET TOUCH



A FREDERICK BRISSON PRODUCTION

also starring

LEO GENN · CLAIRE TREVOR
SYDNEY GREENSTREET

with

LEON AMES · FRANK MCHUGH
WALTER KINGSFORD · DAN TOBIN

Directed by JOHN GAGE · Screenplay by LEO ROSTEN
An INDEPENDENT ARTISTS Picture · Released by RKO RADIO PICTURES



OPENS AT BROADWAY'S FAMOUS

POUS



"You can get away with ANYTHING
...if you've got the VELVET TOUCH!"

Anything?

RIVOLI THEATRE, **SOON**

Trailers

**COST
LESS**

**SELL
MORE**

*Than Any Other
Form of Theatre
Advertising!*



NATIONAL *Screen* **SERVICE**
PRIZE BABY OF THE INDUSTRY

Accurate
Concise
and
Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

FIRST
IN
FILM
NEWS

MR. JOYCE O'HARA,
MOTION PICTURE ASSOC. OF
AMERICA,
28 WEST 44TH ST., 21ST FL.
NEW YORK, N. Y.

64. NO. 29

NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 11, 1948

TEN CENTS

Many Courses Weighed on Music Rights

Varying Interests Bar Single Approach by All

Because of divergent interests and differing problems involved, the producer-distributors are understood to be pursuing no single line in considering the action to be taken on paying for performing rights to musical compositions as a result of the Federal Court's decision finding Ascaph in violation of the anti-trust laws. The companies are assertedly handicapped in making any clearcut plans on what to do about performing rights by the confusion created by Judge Vincent L. Leibel's opinion and the uncertainty of the final outcome of the case. The fact that a decree has not yet been entered in the case was said to add to the difficulty of the companies in reaching any decision on steps to be taken in acquiring performing rights. The attitude of 20th-Fox reportedly is that it feels it may have no choice but to acquire performing as well as

(Continued on page 5)

Mark Silver Moves Into New UA Post

Mark Silver has been appointed assistant Eastern general sales manager of United Artists as expected, it was announced here yesterday by Paul N. Lazarus, executive assistant to UA president Gradwell Sears.

Silver will assume his new duties immediately, acting as field representative for Edward M. Schnitzer, Eastern general sales manager. His immediate agenda includes a trip to all exchanges in the Eastern and Canadian orbit to conduct sales meetings.

With UA since 1934, Silver has suc-

(Continued on page 5)

600 Expected at TOA Convention

Cardinal Stritch of Chicago has accepted the invitation of Gael Sullivan, executive director of the Theatre Owners of America, to open the TOA convention to be held September 24-25 in the Drake Hotel, Chicago. It is estimated that more than 600 TOA members will be in attendance when the first session is convened.

During the two-day meeting dis-

(Continued on page 2)

Sam Katz Is Leaving MGM

HOLLYWOOD, August 10.—Sam Katz has resigned as studio executive for Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, effective March 1, 1949, after 12 years with the company. His contract was not to expire until March 1, 1954.

Katz intends to return to Chicago where, about 1915, he and Barney Balaban, now president of Paramount, began the development of Balaban and Katz Theatres, one of the largest circuits in the Midwest. Prominent in exhibition as well as production, it was at the age of 16 (he is now 56)

(Continued on page 5)

MPEA to Continue Holland Operations

At a meeting here yesterday, the directors of the Motion Picture Export Association voted to continue MPEA operation in the Netherlands. Chairman of the meeting was Francis S. Harmon, M.P.E.A. vice-president. Others present were:

William Satori, Allied Artists; Joseph A. McConville, Columbia; Morton A. Spring and David Lewis, Loew's; George Weltner and William Piper, Paramount; R. K. Hawkinson and B. D. Lion, RKO; Emanuel Silverstone, 20th Century-Fox; Walter Gould, United Artists; Al Daff and C. A. Kirby, Universal; Wolfe Cohen and John J. Glynn, Warner; and,

(Continued on page 2)

Another Promotion For C. J. Latta

London, August 10.—C. J. Latta, who was promoted several weeks ago from Albany, N. Y., zone manager of Warner Theatres, to supervise the company's interests in Associated British Cinemas, has been named managing director of the ABC-related Associated British Picture Corp. The post had been held by the late Max Milder.

Also, D. J. Goodlatte has been named managing director of Associated British Cinemas.

New Shows Clicking At N.Y. First Runs

Flock of new shows and an assortment of sturdy holdovers are giving New York first-runs a week of generally substantial business. Summer slump is still in evidence at a few of the situations, however. Huge number of visitors to the city is a definite asset, with the Music Hall particularly benefiting. August rates as one of the top months of the year at the Hall which is known to be on the itinerary of a large segment of tourists.

At a glance, estimated grosses for the current week follow:

Music Hall, "Date with Judy" with a stage show, first week, \$153,000, ex-

(Continued on page 4)

Jackson Park Decision Brings Buying Phenomena

First Large Video In NY Neighborhood

Large-screen television, believed to be the first in a New York neighborhood house and second only to the Paramount, in this area, will be one of the features of the 2,800-seat Audubon Theatre when it reopens on September 1. The theatre, located on Broadway at 166th Street, has been leased by Moe Goldman and Gilbert Josephson from Broadway-St. Nicholas, Inc., lessor corporation headed by Jack Schechter, under a deal arranged by Berk and Krumgold.

By JIMMY ASCHER

CHICAGO, August 10.—Adoption of competitive bidding in this territory by 20th Century-Fox, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, RKO Radio, and, now, by United Artists has resulted in a buying phenomena here among some neighborhood theatres which prior to the Jackson Park decree was unheard of in the area.

The 1,600-seat independent Ridge Theatre, for example, located on the far Northside of Chicago, operated by the Bartelstein Circuit, which owns seven other theatres, recently outbid Balaban and Katz's Uptown, a 4,300-seater, for Metro's "The Bride Goes Wild." Ridge formerly had played repeat on the Uptown as well as three other B. and K. houses in that vicinity, namely the Granada, Nor-town and Norshore. "Bride" played

(Continued on page 5)

M-G-M to Step Up Production, Including 'B's

Schary Estimates 'About Six' More for This Year

M-G-M contemplates an immediate expanded production program to build up the company's backlog of pictures, Dore Schary, who takes over as vice-president in charge of production on Monday, disclosed yesterday upon his arrival in New York to confer with president Nicholas M. Schenck.

It was estimated the increase for the current fiscal year would amount to "about six" pictures. Schary also revealed that the company intends to add to the schedule a group of smaller-budget pictures. He said that the new program would call for a budget larger than last year's, with no set policy on the amount to be

(Continued on page 5)

May Tie House Quiz To Allied Meeting

WASHINGTON, August 10.—The House Small Business Committee investigating monopoly may hold hearings in New Orleans at the end of November to coincide with the board meeting and convention of Allied States Association.

Idea would be to provide a handy forum for all Allied members to air their complaints.

At the same time, the committee may hold hearings in Los Angeles in December and January, at which the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers could tell of monopoly troubles in production.

The committee, which has displayed extraordinary interest in the film in-

(Continued on page 4)

Columbia Plans to Produce in England

LONDON, August 10.—Columbia is the latest of American film companies to undertake production here. With plans to lease the Nettlefold Studios for the purpose, Columbia has begun negotiations for story properties and personnel. Nettlefold Studios has been closed since June 14 because of the lack of production activity.

11 Companies Get Argentine Permits

Eleven American film companies have been granted import permits by the Argentine government under the recent agreement, Joaquin Rickard, Latin American representative for the Motion Picture Association of America, disclosed here yesterday. Rickard has just returned from a 10-month trip to Argentina, Chile, Brazil and Peru. He expressed satisfaction with the new pact, pointing out that the government had not granted import permits for a year.

Rickard urged patience with South American countries, saying that their currency problem is more critical than people realize.

In Brazil all regulations on the control of admission prices have been suspended until a definite decision is handed down by the courts, Rickard revealed. A decision is expected in about three weeks, whereupon an appeal is likely from either side. Also in the courts, Rickard said, is the Brazilian Central Price Committee's recent order limiting distributors' film percentages to 40 per cent of a theatre's income, after expenses. Rickard observed that when this regulation was put into effect, early last month, American distributors were practically out of business for 10 days. With the control lifted by a court injunction, "conditions now look better," Rickard declared.

He stressed that restrictions against American films are not due to any hostile attitude but only to the economic situation. All countries in South America are eager to make their own pictures, he said.

Mexican Film Firms Exempted from Tax

WASHINGTON, August 10. — Producers and distributors of Mexican films have been exempted from the mercantile income tax in the Federal District, according to Commerce Department film chief Nathan D. Golden.

Golden states that only Mexican enterprises established and registered with the Association of Producers and Distributors of Mexican Motion Pictures will benefit. New film enterprises will not be exempt, and companies claiming exemption must prove solvency.

It is not yet known how U. S. companies will be affected, says the report.

MPEA in Holland

(Continued from page 1)

Theodore S. Hope, Jr., John G. McCarthy, Ted Smith, James Murphy, Joe C. Goltz and Bernard Mazer of the MPEA and MPA. Guest at the meeting was John B. Nathan, Continental manager for Paramount.

Services for Milder Today

LONDON, August 10.—Memorial services will be held here tomorrow for Max Milder, who died on August 1, at the West London Synagogue. A private service was held last Friday, attended by the family and close business associates. The remains will be sent to the U. S.

Personal Mention

HARRY M. KALMINE, president and general manager of Warner Theatres, and **RUDOLPH WEISS**, head of the Warner real estate department here, are in Washington today from New York.

GRAHAM MCINNES, formerly with the National Film Board of Canada, has been appointed to the information division of the Department of External Affairs of Canada.

SARAH KRIVITSKY, secretary to **EDWARD CUDDY**, division manager of M. and P. Theatres, Boston, has been confined to her home for the past two weeks because of illness.

ED HINCHEY, head of the Warner playday department, who left here yesterday for Pittsburgh, is due back in New York at the end of the week.

MAX E. YOUNGSTINE, Eagle-Lion advertising-publicity vice-president, is due in Atlanta today from New Orleans.

ART O'TOOLE, former Chicago salesman with M-G-M and RKO Radio, has joined the Paramount sales force in that city.

LOUIS W. SCHINE, Schine Circuit vice-president, was in town yesterday from Gloversville, N. Y.

ROBERT S. WOLFF, British managing director for RKO Radio, has arrived in New York from London.

LEW BARASCH, United Artists special events coordinator, who returned to New York yesterday from a two-week vacation, has announced his engagement to **BETA ASMOR** of the Copacabana chorus.

GEORGE E. LANDERS, Hartford division manager of E. M. Loew Theatres, and his son, **RICHARD**, accompanied by **IRA LOEW** of the circuit home office, will leave that city Saturday for an automobile trip to Los Angeles.

J. J. FITZGIBBONS, president of Famous Players-Canadian, visited Ottawa from Toronto for a meeting with **PAUL NATHANSON**, former director of Odeon Theatres of Canada.

JOSEPH HARRIS, Realart board chairman and treasurer, accompanied by **MARTIN ROSS**, president of Film Highlights, will sail on the *SS Queen Mary* Saturday for London.

FRANCIS W. McMANUS, M. and P. Theatres division manager, has left Boston for a vacation in Maine.

EDWARD P. DALEY has been elected president of IATSE Local No. 232 in Northampton, Mass.

RKO New York Sales Meeting Tomorrow

RKO Radio Pictures will hold its sixth zone meeting covering the Metropolitan New York district, tomorrow, in the Hotel Astor, with **Robert Mochrie**, distribution vice-president, presiding.

Also attending from the home office will be **Harry J. Michelson**, short subject sales manager; **Charles Boasberg**, North-South division manager; his assistant, **Carl Peppercorn** and **A. A. Schubart**, manager of exchange operations. Present from the New York exchange will be **Len S. Gruenberg**, district manager; **Phil Hodes**, branch manager; **Herman Silverman**, sales manager; **William Hartman**, office manager, and salesmen: **John Dacey**, **Charles Penzer** and **Lou Kutinsky**.

Legion Rates Five; One Classified as 'B'

Monogram's "The Shanghai Chest" and RKO Radio's "Station West" have been classified A-I by the National Legion of Decency. "The Rope," Warner, and "Stage Struck," Monogram, were placed in A-II, while Universal-International's "The Saxon Charm" was classified B.

John U. Lefebvre

GRAND RAPIDS, August 10.—**John U. Lefebvre**, who came to Grand Rapids from Detroit three months ago to manage the Grand Rapids Fox Theatre, was found dead in his hotel bed here yesterday. Dr. **Simeon Lerovm**, coroner, said Lefebvre took his own life. A note left by him told of illness.

Zoellner to Conduct Four Field Meetings

William B. Zoellner, head of M-G-M's short subject sales, reprints and imports, left here yesterday for Chicago for the first of a series of meetings with four field sales managers. Each meeting will last a week.

First meeting, starting in Chicago today, will be held with **Burtus Bishop, Jr.**, Midwestern sales head. Next will be with **George A. Hickey**, Western sales manager, in Los Angeles, starting August 19, to be followed by conferences with **John J. Maloney**, Central sales head, in Pittsburgh, beginning August 27, and with **Rudy Berger**, Southern sales manager, in Washington, for the week of September 3.

Joins Allentown Theatres

ALLENTOWN, Pa., August 10.—**John J. Scully, Jr.**, son of the Universal-International district manager and nephew of U-I vice-president **William A. Scully**, will take up residence here to head Allentown Theatres in the operation of the Transit and Midway theatres, after a wedding trip to Canada, having been married in Lansdowne, Pa., last Saturday to **Frances Muir Marks** of Montgomery, Ala.

Seeks London Play

HOLLYWOOD, August 10.—Producer-director **Roy Del Ruth** disclosed on his return from New York that he had dispatched **Harry Ponet**, his Eastern representative, to London in an air shuttle bid for rights to the Wyndham Theatre's "People Like Us," by the late **Frank Vosper**.

Newsreel Parade

OLYMPIC Games films and Hollywood stars in a U.N. charity benefit in Paris are current newsreel highlights. Other items range from the Red spy hearings in Washington to a man who stands on one finger. Complete contents follow:

MOVIE TONE NEWS, No. 64—Red spy hearings reveal Russia received U. S. A-bomb material. England releases first pictures of atomic plant. Hollywood stars U.N. charity show in Paris. High jumper celebrates his 82nd birthday. Americans in clean sweep of Olympic events.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 298—Latest films of Olympics. Ballet school for toddlers. U. S. giant bombers called back to duty. Film stars in U.N. charity show in Paris.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 101—Greek army advances. Canada: St. Laurent to succeed Mackenzie King. Olympic films.

UNIVERSAL NEWS, No. 168—Superforts make ready for action. Housing project in Puerto Rico. Tall-gal contest. Olympics.

WARNER PATHE NEWS, No. 103—B-29 "depickled." Danube conference. "Two Guys from Texas"; Dennis Morgan and Jack Carson in Texas for premiere. Man stands on one finger. Huge project aids Puerto Rico housing. Olympics.

Truman to Preside At Stamp Ceremony

WASHINGTON, August 10.—**Charles Skouras** and **Ted Gamble** are due here tomorrow morning to attend White House ceremonies marking the first-day sale of the "Youth Month" stamp. President Truman and Postmaster General **Donaldson** head the official list for the ceremony. Also present will be a group of local and New York film executives and trade press representatives. The New York group will fly here in the morning.

Skouras and Gamble head the Theatre Owners of America's "Youth Month" drive, set for September.

600 at TOA Meet

(Continued from page 1)

cussions and open forums will be held on such industry subjects as television, 16mm. competition, Ascapi, admission taxes, public relations and the probable effects of the Supreme Court decision in the Paramount case. There will be a panel of guest speakers throughout all sessions.

Committees are being set up under the direction of **John Balaban**, Chicago, as general chairman, and **Edward Zorn** of Pontiac, as vice-chairman. Among the chairmen are **Nathan H. Platt**, entertainment; **David Wallerstein**, registration; **William Hollander** and **Thornton Sargent**, publicity; **Jack Conway**, transportation; and **Mrs. John Balaban**, women's activities. **C. L. Burndahl** has been named convention treasurer.

Partin Will Manage FC's Portland Office

Jack Partin has been named branch manager of Film Classics' Portland exchange, effective immediately, by **B. G. Kranz**, distribution vice-president.

Partin was formerly a salesman at Portland and has been with Film Classics for two years.

Which is the twin that takes Vitamin M-G-M?



The talk of New York's Film Row is the Preview of "JULIA MISBEHAVES" held last week at Loew's 72nd Street Theatre. Everything you've heard about Greer Garson's new picture is true. (*What a cast! Greer Garson, Walter Pidgeon, Peter Lawford, Elizabeth Taylor, Cesar Romero.*) The audience was in hysterics from beginning to end. Nothing like it has been seen on the screen. A survey of the patrons by Motion Picture Research Bureau following the Preview yielded a new high in audience reaction. "JULIA MISBEHAVES" joins M-G-M's non-stop hit parade: "HOMECOMING", Frank Capra's "STATE OF THE UNION", Irving Berlin's "EASTER PARADE" (*Technicolor*), "A DATE WITH JUDY" (*Technicolor*), "ON AN ISLAND WITH YOU" (*Technicolor*), and soon "THREE MUSKETEERS" (*Technicolor*), "HILLS OF HOME" (*Technicolor*). PLENTY MORE VITAMIN M-G-M COMING!

Extra at Press Time! "A Date With Judy" first 5 days at Music Hall sets new M-G-M all-time high!

It's so good for what ails you!

Video Injunction Scored by Walsh

CLEVELAND, August 10.—While IATSE will comply with a Federal Court order issued in New York to restrain it from interfering with tonight's debut of WJZ-TV in that city, the union will appeal the injunction in court, including the U.S. Supreme Court, Richard F. Walsh, IATSE president, declared here today.

Walsh is here for executive board meetings of the union and for next week's convention.

Attacking the order as "vague and general," Walsh scored the Taft-Hartley law for "making the Federal courts the injunction Reno of America." The order was issued without warning to IATSE and without a hearing, he said, adding that it was based on statements by American Broadcasting and an "unofficial" group, National Association of Broadcast Engineers and Technicians.

ABC obtained the order after it charged the "IA" with unfair labor practices on the grounds that since July 15 the union had sought to have employees of the Palace Theatre, where WJZ-TV picked up its premiere show, and of the New York Telephone Co. deny their services for tonight's program.

He also charged that NABET had threatened to strike over the entire ABC network if a "peaceful and satisfactory arrangement" were made with IATSE. ABC offered to pay "IA" members stand-by time "in violation of the law," Walsh reported, adding that the union, which has "always opposed stand-by compensation," rejected this proposal.

Schlaifer Sets Tieup

An extensive radio tieup starting with "Cinderella Weekend," a daily audience participation show in 10 Eastern cities, has been set by Charles Schlaifer, director of advertising-publicity for 20th Century-Fox. The promotion also will provide daily air mention for other current 20th Century-Fox pictures. Weekly winners from each city will receive a trip to New York, where they will visit the Roxy.



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AMERICAN
AIRLINES

WJZ-TV Premiere Revives Vaudeville

WJZ-TV, New York, owned and operated by American Broadcasting Co., moved into full-swing operations at seven o'clock last night with a blare of horns and an extensive program which had as its highpoint a vaudeville show emanating from the Palace Theatre here and featuring entertainment stars of today and yesterday.

Fears of possible disruption of the Palace show were allayed when Federal Judge Samuel H. Kaufman restrained the IATSE from striking in a jurisdictional dispute over the employment of technicians.

As scheduled, the Palace had a two-hour, star-studded parade of personalities passing before the television cameras. Included were Ray Bolger, James Barton, Buck and Bubbles, Carlton Emmy, Ella Logan, Beatrice Lillie, Mary Raye, Naldi, Pat Rooney, Willie West and McGinty, and Paul Whiteman.

House Quiz

(Continued from page 1)

dustry, has released a schedule of hearings in September and October in 12 cities. Several are in allied strongholds, such as Minneapolis, Detroit, and Kansas City, but should the plan for the New Orleans hearings solidify, Allied members in the other cities might choose to wait for the New Orleans hearings and follow whatever line is laid down there by top Allied leaders.

Asked to comment on the report of plans for New Orleans hearings, Allied States counsel Abram F. Myers said any announcement must come from the committee, but "New Orleans certainly would be a natural," he added.

Allied's board will meet in New Orleans November 27-28, followed by the Allied convention November 29-December 1.

There were no West Coast hearings on the list released, but a committee member revealed that the group plans to travel to Los Angeles, San Francisco and Seattle in December or January. Motion pictures will get star billing at the "L. A." hearings, he declared.

Rooney, Stiefel Form New Company

HOLLYWOOD, August 10. — Mickey Rooney has formed a new company in association with Sam H. Stiefel to produce in four different fields—motion pictures, the stage, radio and television. Stiefel, a former Philadelphia exhibitor, has been Rooney's business manager for six years.

With this project in mind, Rooney recently signed a new agreement at M-G-M not to exceed five films, under the terms of which he is permitted to operate independently as well.

Dr. Bradley Retires

WASHINGTON, August 10.—Dr. John Bradley, former head of the motion picture unit of the Library of Congress has retired. The film unit was abolished by Congress last year, and since then Bradley had been retained in an advisory capacity. Bradley served in various other Government posts before joining the Library staff in 1945.

Campaign Ushers 'Ruth' into Boston

Boston, August 10.—Allied Artists' "The Babe Ruth Story" had its New England premiere here tonight at RKO's Keith Memorial. Among highlights of the advance campaign are tie-ups with Boston papers, and a city-wide letter-writing campaign for the formation of a rooters section of Ruth admirers.

New York Grosses

(Continued from page 1)

cellent; Paramount, "Beyond Glory," with Peggy Lee, Jan Murray, Ray Eberle's orchestra and others on stage, first week, \$100,000, very strong; Roxy, "Walls of Jericho," Dick Haymes and an ice revue on stage, first week, \$116,000, big business; Globe, "Four Faces West," first week, \$14,500, moderately good ("Escape" follows on Saturday); Mayfair "Return of the Bad Men," first week, \$25,000, no complaints; Rialto, "Gung Ho" and "Eagle Squadron," re-issues, first week, \$15,000, solid.

Capitol Gross Is \$85,000

Second week of "Stop the Music" on stage and "On An Island with You" on the screen will give the Capitol about \$85,000, a big figure, but a little less impressive in the light of the cost of the give-away show, said to be running around \$30,000 per week. The Strand is next with prizes for audiences with "Winner Take All," also from radio, scheduled to begin on August 27, along with "Two Guys from Texas."

Box-office performance of "Abbott and Costello Meet Frankenstein" at the Criterion here (and top situations elsewhere) is the talk of the trade; second week's gross at the Criterion is estimated at \$30,000, under the first week's take by about \$10,000, but still plenty strong. It will go a third week and probably a fourth.

'Easter Parade' Slips Slightly

"Easter Parade" at the State still is healthy but slipped a little, the sixth week's gross being figured at \$38,000. "Key Largo" with Count Basie and Billie Holiday at the Strand has a handsome fourth week's income of \$58,000 in view. "The Babe Ruth Story" is still on the plus side at the Astor with \$24,000 in sight for a second week. "So Evil My Love" probably will give the Rivoli a fairish \$23,000 in its third week.

Second week of "Brute Force" and "The Killers" will likely provide the Winter Garden with \$8,000, hardly overwhelming. Suitable first-run product not available, the Gotham is offering combinations of re-issues on a split-week basis with grosses running between \$7,500 and \$9,000, meeting requirements.

Third Jackpot at Capitol in Week

For the third time in a week, a patron of the Capitol Theatre's "Stop the Music" has hit the jackpot and will collect \$7,500 in merchandise prizes. The third is Elmer Leighton, New York.

Dayton Collects \$64,000

DAYTON, O., August 10.—Collections of the local three per cent admission tax for the first six months of 1948, totaled \$64,015. The City Commission has estimated the full year's collection at \$140,000.

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY correspondents. Estimates omit admission tax.

INDIANAPOLIS

Rain and cold drove theatregoers indoors again this week, most first-run film houses profiting with generally sizable grosses. "Key Largo" is nearly 50 per cent over average. Estimated receipts for the week ending August 10-13:

FULLER BRUSH MAN (Col.) and ADVENTURES IN SILVERADO (Col.)—LOEW'S (2,450) (44c-65c)—2nd week. Gross: \$10,000. (Average: \$11,000)

KEY LARGO (WB)—INDIANA (3,200) (44c-65c). Gross: \$17,000. (Average: \$12,000)

GIVE MY REGARDS TO BROADWAY (20th-Fox) and COUNTERFEITERS (20th-Fox)—KEITH'S (1,300) (44c-65c) On a moveover from the Indiana. Gross: \$4,500. (Average: \$4,500)

SMART WOMAN (AA-Mon.) and JINX MONEY (Mono.)—LYRIC (1,600) (44c-65c). Gross: \$4,500. (Average: \$6,000)

UP IN CENTRAL PARK (U-I) and DEAR MURDERER (U-I)—CIRCLE (2,800) (44c-65c). Gross: \$10,000. (Average: \$10,000)

ATLANTA

Business is a little above the average this week. Weather is a little cool. Estimated receipts for the week ending August 11:

BUCK PRIVATES AND THE STORM (Realart)—TOWER (1,865) (17c-50c). Gross: \$5,900. (Average: \$5,800)

HATTER'S CASTLE (Para.)—ROXY (2,446) (12c-50c). Gross: \$5,900. (Average: \$5,800)

LETTER FROM AN UNKNOWN WOMAN (U-I)—LOEW'S GRAND (2,446) (12c-54c). Gross: \$13,500. (Average: \$15,000)

UP IN CENTRAL PARK (U-I)—PARAMOUNT (2,446) (12c-50c). Gross: \$6,100. (Average: \$5,800)

THE WALLS OF JERICHO (20th-Fox)—FOX (4,446) (12c-50c). Gross: \$15,500. (Average: \$15,000)

Krushen to Dallas

Mori Krushen, exploitation manager for United Artists, left for Dallas yesterday to complete details for the four-state exploitation and publicity campaigns for day-and-date openings of Howard Hawks' "Red River" in more than 300 situations on August 26.

Public Relations Series

Completion of a series of 13 one-minute shorts which stress the community role of the theatre has been announced by W. H. Hendren, Jr., United Film Service president, and Carl Mabry, Motion Picture Advertising Service president.

OFFICE SPACE in FILM BUILDING

1225 Vine St., Philadelphia

Two units available—2500 sq. ft. and 1035 sq. ft. In same building as Clark Film Distr. Co., Republic Film, Eagle-Lion Films, and Film Censor Board of Penna.

Albert M. Greenfield & Co.
Walnut & Juniper Sts. Phila. 7, Pa.

MGM Production

(Continued from page 1)

spent on individual productions. Each picture will be budgeted at whatever it may be worth, he said.

Schary asserted that under his production administration M-G-M proposed to make a number of "experimental" pictures and more of what he described as "progressive" films. "We are going to make some challenging pictures," he announced. He said the M-G-M production program "could absorb five to 10 experimental pictures."

Stresses 'Responsibility' of Films

In explaining the production ideas he hoped to put into effect at M-G-M, Schary voiced the opinion that pictures must carry a responsibility besides seeking to entertain. He said that by calling for mature pictures he did not mean films resorting to license. "Art," he observed, "doesn't mean four-letter words scribbled on fences." Schary took a poke at "long-haired" critics' views on Hollywood, indicating they are prejudiced.

Schary said that more care in the preparation of scripts would be used by the studio to help cut production costs, which, he reported, are continuing their downward trend.

According to Schary, the proper thing to do in making pictures is "to aim at the domestic market," although there are still some remnants of the foreign market left to American distributors.

Schary disclosed that his M-G-M contract, about the term of which there has been some confusion, is for 14 years.

No MGM Plans for Video

The new M-G-M production chief said that the company has no specific plans to make films for video.

It was conceded that many pictures are too long. Although he held that a film should be no longer than the story dictated, Schary could not say whether M-G-M planned to adopt a hard-and-fast policy on running time. He said he intends to "add some manpower" at the M-G-M studio, "as I go along."

Schary said he will have an interest in every picture made at M-G-M, although the studio's productions will not carry his name "for quite a while"—maybe never.

He will leave New York for the Coast tonight.

Katz Quits MGM

(Continued from page 1)

that he opened his first theatre after having been employed by the late Carl Laemmle.

The growth of Balaban and Katz led to an association with Paramount, the management of the latter's theatres being taken over by B. and K. Katz became vice-president of Paramount Publix in 1925 and resigned seven years later. He joined M-G-M in 1936.

Katz also had an interest in Monarch Theatres which until last year was headed by his brother, the late Harry Katz. Monarch was sold to Ted Gamble about one year ago.

High Tax in Salt Lake

SALT LAKE CITY, August 10.—Theatres here will have to pay the maximum tax of 19.5 mills for property when the new city budget is prepared.

Curtis Seeks DC Theatre

Joseph H. Curtis, son of Columbia vice-president Jack Cohn, will be in Washington today for conferences with Marcus Notes, owner and operator of the Strand Theatre there, concerning the former's bid to take over the house as a legitimate theatre. The National Theatre, the Capital's only legitimate house, closed on July 31 as the result of a deadlock in a controversy with Actors Equity over the exclusion of Negroes. Curtis, who is seeking to buy or lease the Strand, would operate under a non-discrimination policy.

Music Rights

(Continued from page 1)

recording rights should Judge Leibell's opinion be sustained on appeal.

A Columbia spokesman said the company was "wrestling with the problem" and was busy exploring various courses of action. The firm was said to be considering ideas on the matter that would "make the music people happy."

Same License Form for Para.

Paramount was represented as giving no thought to the subject at this time. It was pointed out that, pending final clarification of the issue, the company would not know where or how to get performing rights from copyright owners. A spokesman said that "for the time being we will continue to take the same form of license as in the past."

M-G-M was reported keenly interested in the subject of performing rights while watching closely developments growing out of the court's decision in the Ascap case.

A Universal spokesman asserted that until "further clarification of the entire situation," the company proposed to hold up any decision on performing rights. The company's views on the subject were termed "indefinite."

No Decision by Republic

At Republic it was reported that no decision had been reached pending final adjudication of the case.

While in his decision Judge Leibell suggested that copyright owners might deal directly with the producer, Warner Brothers is inclined to take the position that there are other possibilities in solving the performing rights problem.

Early last week RKO Radio was reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY as weighing the idea of purchasing performing as well as synchronization rights as one means of meeting the difficulty posed by Judge Leibell's decision.

Silver's UA Post

(Continued from page 1)

cessively held the posts of salesman, office manager, branch manager in New York and Washington and district manager of the Pennsylvania-Washington area.

Abe Dickstein will continue in his present post as executive assistant to Schnitzer.

Generalis in New Post

George A. Generalis has been appointed general advertising and publicity manager of *National Herald*, Greek-American daily newspaper, by B. Marketos, publisher. Generalis was formerly in charge of foreign language publicity for 20th Century-Fox.

Jackson Park

(Continued from page 1)

the Ridge on a two-week run as against the normal one-week run at the Uptown, in order to meet Metro's film rental. Successful results at the box-office for the engagement, consequently resulted in the Ridge's outbidding the four B. and K. houses for Metro's "The Search," for two weeks.

Ridge Theatre Is Unhappy

On the other hand the Ridge is not altogether happy with a number of other major distributors who, it claims, continue to sell under the old Chicago system of release. The chief complaint is that Warner, Paramount, Universal and Columbia would prefer to sell films on a double-feature basis first to the Uptown and other large seaters, rather than split the bookings, thus enabling the Ridge and other small seaters to book the second half of a bill, usually a top bracket picture. The management says that the double featuring of films coming out of the Loop playing "A" houses first dissipates top product before it can get a crack at it. The Ridge claims it tried to book "Winter Meeting," a Warner film, when it came out of the Loop, and was willing to pay Warners' asking price, but it was booked first into the Uptown as the lower half of a bill.

As a result, the Ridge claims it is

in the peculiar playing position of running an alternate policy—some weeks of playing RKO Radio, Metro and 20th-Fox product at first-run neighborhood showing, and in other weeks, playing repeat on B. and K. houses.

The booking situation is not altogether the same on the Northside of Chicago as it is on the Southside. In this case, Warner, which owns Southside theatres, and Paramount, which controls B. and K. houses, located all over Chicago, are privileged to book into their own houses first, while Universal and Columbia can sell as they see fit, being non-defendants in the Jackson Park decree.

The Jackson Park Theatre won for itself and other Southside houses, the opportunity to compete with Warner and B. and K. houses for top product.

Majority of Houses Benefit

While the majority of theatres throughout Chicago have generally benefited from the decree, being able to play films with greater rapidity than ever before and doing better business than ever before, the booking situation has not altogether worked itself out to the complete satisfaction of some of the smaller houses, such as the Ridge, which is willing to pay for the product if it can get it. The distributors are gradually working the decree out with careful and slow deliberation in the hope that a happy conclusion for all houses will one day be reached.



When the phone r-i-n-g-s...

It will be people everywhere telling their friends about the Paramount thrill-picture produced by Hal Wallis, for which Film Daily predicts "Top grosses."

"SORRY, WRONG NUMBER"

BOXOFFICE CHAMPIONS* FLASH!

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that
leads the
Industry
in '48
Boxoffice
Champions!

ROXY, N. Y.
Packing the
Roxy to the walls
as first 5 days
top full week of
"Sitting Pretty!"

LOS ANGELES
Leading the
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and-date!

DETROIT
Matching the pace of
Boxoffice Champion
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With No Name!"

PITTSBURGH
Walls building high to
20th's '48 Boxoffice
Champion marks!

ATLANTA
Opening DOUBLES
figure of Technicolor
"Give My Regards
To Broadway!"



CORNEL WILDE • LINDA DARNELL
ANNE BAXTER • KIRK DOUGLAS
**THE WALLS
OF JERICHO**

with ANN DVORAK • Marjorie Rambeau • Henry Hull • Colleen Townsend • Barton MacLane • Grif Barnett • William Tracy • Art Baker
Directed by JOHN M. STAHL • Produced by LAMAR TROTT

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TEN CENTS

Col. Acquires Dual Rights To Film Music

Seen Setting Pattern for Interim in Ascap Ruling

HOLLYWOOD, August 11.—Setting a pattern which is expected to be adopted by other companies, Columbia will acquire performing as well as synchronization rights to music used in its productions, Jonie Taps, Columbia studio music executive, disclosed here today.

The company has already acquired both the exhibition and recording rights to the score for its sequel to "The Jolson Story," and will follow the same policy for all other pictures pending final decision in the New York Federal Court ruling which held the music society to be in violation of the anti-trust laws, Taps said.

Deals for the projected Jolson follow-up, which will include music from almost all principal publishing firms,

(Continued on page 3)

Knutson Cautious in Excise Cut Pledge

WASHINGTON, August 11.—Additional evidence that top Republican leaders are hedging on pledges to cut excise taxes next year was contained in a statement issued today by House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Knutson.

The Minnesota Republican said his committee is studying the entire excise picture and that undoubtedly some of the war taxes will have to be repealed or reduced at the next session of Congress—"if the revenues of the Govern-

(Continued on page 3)

U. S. Asks Delay in Griffith Re-hearing

OKLAHOMA CITY, August 11.—Judge Edgar S. Vaught of U. S. District Court here has set September 7 as the date for hearing a Justice Department motion to postpone until November 1 the hearing in the Griffith anti-trust case, originally scheduled for September 20. The Justice Department has asked for the delay because a new special assistant Attorney General has been assigned to the case.

The hearing was ordered by the Supreme Court in the Government's anti-trust suit against the circuit, and is to reconsider the question of divestiture as well as other phases of the high court's ruling.

B. & K. Advised to Halt Ascap Payment

Chicago, August 11.—Paramount has advised Balaban and Katz, circuit affiliate, to cease making payments to Ascap for music reproduction rights, pending further decision by company attorneys in the situation growing out of Judge Leibell's decision in New York declaring Ascap's collections to be illegal.

Famous Music Publishers, a key Ascap member, is owned by Paramount.

Action Delayed on Ascap Non-payments

The question of what action Ascap will take on the decision of affiliated and other theatres to halt payments for public performance rights is expected to remain unanswered until the return of Robert P. Patterson, special counsel for the society, who has left the city for a month's vacation.

The former Secretary of War was retained by Ascap last week to handle problems arising from the Federal Court decision holding the society in violation of the anti-trust laws.

The affiliated circuits, including Paramount, Warner, RKO and probably Loew's and National Theatres, were understood to have acted against further payment of fees to Ascap pending clarification of the question of what agency the performing rights must be cleared through and by what method.

Urge 'Protection' by Ascap Pact Clause

LOUISVILLE, August 11.—The Kentucky Association of Theatre Owners advises members to insert a 60-day cancellation clause in any 10-year contracts submitted by Ascap. This advice from Henry J. Stites, general counsel for the KATO, comes after a trip to New York and a study of the problem in the light of the July 20 decision of U. S. District Judge Vincent Leibell halting the collections of license fees from theatres.

Stites concludes that in those instances where theatre owners have received contracts from Ascap and have accepted them with an inserted cancellation clause, the fact that Ascap has mailed back such contracts unaccepted will protect the individual theatre owner from any serious involvement. There are several in-

(Continued on page 3)

Odlum's Film Holdings Off

Film company security holdings of Floyd Odlum's Atlas and Ogden corporations are the lowest in years, listed at \$2,642,052, compared to the multi-millions previously held, the annual Atlas stockholders' statement disclosed yesterday. Values of the securities reflect market prices of June 30, 1948, date of the financial statement.

After having sold the entire Atlas holdings of 929,020 RKO common shares to Howard Hughes, Odlum retained an interest in that company through 327,812 option warrants, valued at \$737,577; these, however, have no voting rights.

Largest film company holdings of Atlas were 50,000 shares of Paramount common, listed at \$1,150,000. Also held were 6,000 shares of Paramount, by Ogden, valued at \$138,000.

Atlas held \$234,460 of Walt Disney bonds and 91,700 shares of Disney common, valued at \$298,025. In 20th Century-Fox, Ogden held 4,000 shares of common, valued at \$84,000.

Truman Launches TOA's Youth Month

WASHINGTON, August 11.—President Truman today launched the Theatre Owners of America's Youth Month drive in a White House ceremony marking the issuance of the first sheets of the new three-cent "Salute to Youth" commemorative stamp. The ceremony was attended by more than 500, including many prominent in the film industry.

In accepting the first portfolio of stamps from Postmaster General Jesse M. Donaldson, President Truman declared that "the welfare of the world is wrapped up in the youth of this nation."

On the platform with the President

(Continued on page 3)

House Hollywood Labor Group 'Alive'

WASHINGTON, August 11.—The House Labor sub-committee investigating Hollywood labor disputes got a last minute reprieve when Congress quit ahead of schedule.

House Labor Committee chairman Hartley had called a meeting for Monday at which sub-committee chairman Carroll D. Kearns was to submit a report on the group's work. The full committee was to ratify it, and that was to be the end of the investigation, with no further hearings or further

(Continued on page 3)

MPAA to Map New Foreign Market Action

Johnston Visit to Paris, London Soon Is Likely

Future policy with respect to the industry's top-ranking foreign market problems, including the new British 45 per cent film quota law and a new financial agreement with France, is scheduled to be decided at a meeting of the Motion Picture Association board of directors here early next week, probably on Monday.

Indications are that Eric Johnston, MPAA president, and Joyce O'Hara, his assistant, will leave for Europe within a few days after the meeting to carry out the board's directions.

The industry protested the new British quota law to the U. S. State Department in June. Expressing its "concern" over the matter at the time, the State Department asked the London Embassy for a full report on the quota. So far as can be learned, nothing has happened since. It is considered likely in the trade that the MPAA board may request Johnston to go to London to confer on the mat-

(Continued on page 3)

WB Faces Threat to L. A. Video Plans

WASHINGTON, August 11.—The Southern California Television Co. today moved to block Warner Brothers from acquiring a Los Angeles television station.

Warner has asked the Federal Communications Commission to approve its plans to buy from Dorothy Thackeray her San Francisco standard broadcast station, her Los Angeles standard station and her Los Angeles television

(Continued on page 3)

Heart Award to NT Head Monday

Los Angeles, August 11.—Louis B. Mayer, Joseph M. Schenck, Ted Gamble and Mayor Fletcher Bowron will be principal speakers at the Variety Club banquet to be held at the Cocoanut Grove Monday night in honor of Charles Skouras, National Theatres president, who will be presented with the "Great Heart Award."

Personal Mention

DORE SCHARY, M-G-M production vice-president, left here yesterday for the Coast.

HOWARD STRICKLING, M-G-M studio publicity head, and his wife; **PAUL TERRY**, Terrytoons producer, and his wife; **CLARK GABLE**, **SPENCER TRACY**, **CHARLES BOYER** and **TOM O'BRIEN**, general secretary of the British National Association of Theatrical and Kine Employees, are among passengers arriving in New York today on the *SS Queen Mary*.

PAUL KAMY of M-G-M's exploitation department will spend his vacation, starting next Wednesday, at the Bread Loaf Writers' Conference at Middlebury, Vt.

LEONARD HIRSCH, home office assistant to M-G-M Southern sales manager **RUDY BERGER**, will leave here tomorrow for a vacation at Beechaven, N. J.

JAMES MULVEY, president of Samuel Goldwyn Productions, will return to New York Monday from a Maine vacation.

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Delay Seen in RKO Stockholders' Meet

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Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

NOTICE how Metro's lineup has been running since the first of the year? Twenty attractions, omitting reissues, have been spotted for release on an even split between straight-away comedies and/or musicals and dramas. Several in the latter category have been generously interlarded with both comedy and music, to boot.

It comes about through no accident, moreover. While appreciating that any program must seek to establish a balance, the trend has been toward the lighter side in the belief that is what the public wants more of in these days of national and international uncertainties.

This is how it has been going: Hand-running with nary an interruption in June-July were "The Pirate," "On an Island with You," "Easter Parade" and "A Date with Judy." The comedy-and-musical cycle interrupts itself with "The Search." Then, eschewing any breaks again, will be "Luxury Liner," "A Southern Yankee," "Julia Misbehaves" and "No More Vices," in September-October.

After "The Three Musketeers" gets moving at Loew's State here, where it will succeed "Easter Parade," its general release will be set thereby adding still another to the light-and-happy score card.

In production are "Take Me Out to the Ball Game" and "The Barkleys of Broadway," another brace.

Jimmy Nasser, a producer who persists in remembering he also is an exhibitor, is one independent, at least, who has learned what Metro already has. Checking key city theatremen and a number of critics for their approach on current public tastes, Nasser has made his decision:

Heavy stress on comedy in his lineup following "An Innocent Affair," itself a comedy. He won't forego dramatic overtones or touches, but comedy "as an escape from the war-threatened, inflation-shadowed world" will be his ticket.

What with headache of studio overhead, which runs on if in somewhat reduced degree even when cameras stop grinding, and the desirability of maintaining a safe and reasonable inventory, the tendency toward backlogs remains essentially unaltered.

At Paramount, where **Henry Ginsberg** is maestro, for instance, the shelf has been consistently stocked for some years now. Now comes a studio recap to prove things will stay that way.

Eleven films will be released during the balance of '48.

Eight of them ready.

Eight others have been polished off awaiting distribution's signal.

Three are in production now and five more go before the end of the year.

Six or seven are to be launched early in '49.

By spring, at the latest, Paramount will be virtually set for all of next year.

One of Dore Schary's first attentions as V. P. in charge of Metro production will be directed toward product reserves. The company's position in that regard needs strengthening, he told reporters on Tuesday.

On a general question about the executive lineup at Culver City, he indicated clearly there'd be some changes made. A couple of hours later one developed. **Sam Katz's** contract, dated March 1, 1954, washes up five years ahead of expiration.

Note for Howard Hughes of RKO and the Hughes Tool Co.: "The mounting demand for oil will be met by the drilling of 40,000 new wells in the United States during the current year, a goal which six months ago would have been considered impossible, if not ridiculous."—The New York Times.

Exhibitors concerned over night baseball and nervous "A's" ought to become less concerned. The U. S. Department of Agriculture foresees a 1948 popcorn crop approximately 51 per cent greater than last year's when plantings totaled 83,700 acres.

This year's: 126,700.

Sad commentary on the dear public, or enough of it, is to be found in Paramount's need to advertise "A Foreign Affair" as "A Foreign Affair Is a Funny Affair."

Buried in the news: That Universal was bidding for the stock of National Theatres before 20th-Fox repurchased it from **Charlie Skouras**, **Rick Ricketson**, **Harold Fitzgerald** and **Elmer Rhoden**.

Coming Events

Aug. 16-21—International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees biennial convention, Public Auditorium, Cleveland.

Aug. 24—Motion Picture Theatre Owners of Connecticut golf tournament, Racetrack Country Club, Orange, Conn.

Sept. 14-15—Independent Theatre Owners of Ohio convention, Deshler-Wallick Hotel, Columbus.

Sept. 14-16—Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners' trustees annual meeting, Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles.

Sept. 16-18—International Variety Clubs' mid-year convention, Statler Hotel, Washington.

Sept. 24-25—Theatre Owners of America convention, Drake Hotel, Chicago.

Sept. 27-30—Theatre Equipment and Supply Manufacturers Association national trade show and convention, Jefferson Hotel, St. Louis.

Sept. 28-29—Kansas-Missouri Theatre Association annual convention, Kansas City.

Oct. 14-15—Independent Theatre Owners of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan annual convention, Schroeder Hotel, Milwaukee.

Air Force to Cite Wartime Performers

WASHINGTON, August 11.—The U. S. Air Force will award scrolls to screen, stage and radio stars who entertained Air Force personnel overseas during the war at an Air Force reunion to be held on September 25 in Madison Square Garden, New York.

Producer **Hal Roach** has been asked to serve as chairman of the committee to nominate the entertainers to receive the scrolls. Other members of the committee, all members of the Air Force Association which is sponsoring the reunion, include **Jack L. Warner**, **James Stewart**, **Clark Gable**, **Merian Cooper**, **Tex McCreary**, and New York financier **J. H. (Jock) Whitney**.

Mid - Central Allied Regional August 18

ST. LOUIS, August 11.—The new Mid-Central Allied Independent Theatre Owners Association will start activating its field activities on August 18 when it will hold its first regional meeting, in Cape Girardeau, Mo. **Henry Halloway** is president of the organization.

Eastern Directors Of Allied Meet Here

Eastern regional directors of national Allied met here yesterday. **Meyer Leventhal** of Baltimore, Eastern regional vice-president, presided. Others in attendance included **Sidney Samuelson**, **Jules Rivkin**, **Irving Dollinger**, **Wilbur Snaper**, **George Gold** and **Ed Lachman**.

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WJZ-TV Debut Not Entirely Faultless

Tuesday night's inaugural program of WJZ-TV, American Broadcasting's New York television station, had some shortcomings, Frank Marx, the network's vice-president in charge of engineering, admitted here yesterday. He added, however, that those imperfections which did materialize had been expected and were not serious.

The station made its debut with an elaborate program originating at the Palace Theatre on Broadway. Home receiver sets had to be adjusted in order to allow for maximum quality reception on the new Channel No. 7. The fact that some receivers were not properly serviced accounted for somewhat distorted and indistinct figures on the screens, Marx said.

Also adding to the difficulty, he added, was the fact that the station had insufficient time for satisfactory preparation of the show at the Palace because the theatre was not made available until the same day of the telecast. Another factor, Marx said, was the use of remote equipment, obviously inferior to regular equipment. Marx concluded that reaction to the show was generally favorable.

WB Faces Threat

(Continued from page 1)

station. Warner said it would pay \$1,045,000 for the package.

Today Southern California Television asked the FCC to make Warner specify how much it planned to pay for each of the three stations, since it wanted to bid on the television station. FCC officials said that as far as they could recall, this was the first attempt by any firm to force other parties to break up a package deal.

Twentieth Century-Fox of St. Louis, meanwhile, finally filed with the FCC for a television station in St. Louis. This move, promised some weeks ago, brings to five the number of applications for commercial television stations by 20th-Fox firms. Others are pending for Boston, Kansas City, Seattle and San Francisco.

TOA's Youth Month

(Continued from page 1)

and Donaldson were Charles P. Skouras, national chairman of the TOA Youth Committee; Ted R. Gamble and Gael Sullivan, president and executive director, respectively, of TOA. Other Government figures included Senator Alben Barkley, Attorney General Tom Clark, and Treasury Secretary John Snyder.

Among other industry figures present were: Leon Bamberger, Sidney Lust, Lewen F. Pizer, Sam Shain, George P. Skouras, Spyros P. Skouras, Stanley W. Prenosil, Henry Muddock, Harry Lowenstein, Albert Pinchus, and Kermit Stengel.

Newsreel cameras took pictures of the proceedings. "Youth Month will be launched nationally in September."

Endorsement by Ill. Allied

CHICAGO, August 11.—Endorsement of National Youth Month, which will be observed throughout the nation in September, has been approved by Allied Theatres of Illinois, Jack Kirsch, president, announces. Local Allied members are being urged to make their screens available for special trailers as well as aiding through community projects.

Film-Video Group to Name New Officers

Officers of the recently-formed National Television Film Council are to be nominated at a meeting on August 19 at Sardi's here, with elections scheduled for next September.

The right to perform music on television will be discussed at the August 19 meeting by Sidney Kaye, vice-president of Broadcast Music, Inc. Also on the agenda is a proposed standard exhibition contract for films on television. Melvin L. Gold is chairman of the organization and Robert W. Wormhoudt is secretary-treasurer.

Paramount Bid for Station Withdrawn

WASHINGTON, August 11.—The Federal Communications Commission has let Tri-State Meredith Co., 50 per cent owned by Paramount subsidiary Tri-State Theatres, withdraw its application to buy station KSO in Des Moines.

Tri-State asked to be let out of the deal when the FCC asked for long opinions on what effect Paramount's interest in the station should have in light of the Supreme Court's Paramount trust suit decision.

20th-Fox Forms New Film-Video Firm

ALBANY, N. Y., August 11.—Twentieth Century-Fox Television Productions, Inc., has been chartered here to produce films for television.

Norman B. Steinberg, 20th-Fox attorney who represented the company in the incorporation of the new television firm, said here yesterday that no further action, other than actual incorporation, has been taken by the new unit.

To Judge NAB Contest

WASHINGTON, August 11.—Motion Picture Association of America president Eric Johnston and film actor James Stewart are among the eight judges in the National Association of Broadcasters' second annual "Voice of Democracy" contest in which scholarships are awarded to the four high school students delivering the best five-minute broadcasts on "I Speak for Democracy."

Columbus to Get Video

COLUMBUS, O., August 11.—First local television station to begin construction is WBNT-TV, owned by the Columbus Dispatch, which announced start of work on or about August 15. It will be affiliated with CBS.

Rogers Fund Meet Set

CLEVELAND, August 11.—Plans for raising the local quota of \$75,000 for the Will Rogers Memorial Hospital will be discussed at a luncheon meeting on Monday of Cleveland exhibitors. The affair is being held by a committee headed by I. J. Schmertz.

House Labor Group

(Continued from page 1)

testimony from Conference of Studio Unions head Herbert K. Sorrell.

But when Congress quit all members of the committee left town, and Hartley had to call the meeting off. There will probably not be another meeting until after the elections.

CBS Television in 80 Cities Planned

A four-year expansion program intended to give the network affiliated or wholly-owned television stations in 80 cities was announced by Herbert V. Akerberg, vice-president in charge of station relations for Columbia Broadcasting. Five new CBS television outlets are scheduled to begin operation this year, in Toledo, Cleveland, Detroit, Atlanta, and Los Angeles.

CBS has its own video station in New York, WCBS-TV, and has applications pending for others in Boston, Chicago and San Francisco. Akerberg reported that programs on film will be supplied to the CBS affiliates which require that service until coaxial cable or micro-wave relay systems are developed.

Urge 'Protection'

(Continued from page 1)

stances where Ascap has returned contracts to theatre owners because of the cancellation clause being inserted. He recalled the 60-day cancellation clause was provided for in the agreement between TOA and Ascap reached last February 6.

The KATO further stated the decision of Judge Leibell does not eliminate the payment for performing rights to Ascap by theatres. It would take the repeal of the Federal Copyright Law to do that, it added. Judge Leibell's decision was in an anti-trust case and if sustained on appeal means only that copyright owners will be paid for performing rights in a way other than through Ascap, KATO reminds.

Where contracts are returned unaccepted by Ascap, theatre owners are told that they should keep the envelope containing the post office stamp with the returned contract enclosed, and not sign the new contract.

Col. Acquires

(Continued from page 1)

are strictly "if and when" in character, Taps said, adding that prices for performing rights are agreed upon but no payment will be made until and unless Judge Vincent Leibell's decision is upheld.

Amplifying on the deal he concluded after policy conferences with Columbia's legal counsel in New York, Taps said the terms for performing rights varied from one-third to 100 per cent of prices paid for recording rights.

Recording rights for the average musical picture run as high as \$200,000. Thus, under Columbia's arrangement, cost of performing rights for such a picture would range from \$70,000 to \$200,000.

Omaha Services for Schlaifer's Father

OMAHA, August 11.—Funeral services were held here today for A. Schlaifer, pioneer Omahan and father of Charles Schlaifer, director of advertising-publicity for 20th Century-Fox. Schlaifer passed away when complications developed following a fall which resulted in a fractured hip last Wednesday.

A leader in the business, civic and cultural life of Omaha, Schlaifer, who recently observed his 56th wedding anniversary, is survived by the widow, Ziril, and four other sons, Israel, Leo, Nathan and Morrie.

King George Honors Col. 'Jock' Lawrence

LONDON, August 11.—J. B. L. (Jock) Lawrence, executive vice-president of the J. Arthur Rank Organization in the U. S., who was a Colonel in the last war, has been made an honorary officer of the military division of the Order of the British Empire by King George.

Lawrence was cited for his work under Lord Louis Mountbatten when the latter was chief of combined army operations in the ETO in World War II. The award also was in recognition for his service with the Commandoes, with the ETO Services of Supply and as chief public relations officer of the American Forces in the ETO. He will return to New York in two weeks.

John Ford Cited in Film Festival Award

John Ford was cited as best director of the year at the annual International Film Festival at Locarno, Switzerland. Other awards were conferred on 20th Century-Fox's "Miracle on 34th Street" as the best screen adaptation and Richard Widmark as best supporting actor.

In addition, Hildegard Neff, 22-year-old starlet who is now in Hollywood under contract to David O. Selznick, was cited for her acting in "Film Without Title," produced last year in the American zone in Berlin, it was reported here yesterday by the Selznick Releasing Organization.

MPAA to Map

(Continued from page 1)

ter with Ambassador Lewis Douglas and perhaps with British officials in an effort to speed action before the quota becomes effective October 1.

As reported August 4 in MOTION PICTURE DAILY, it is regarded as extremely likely that Johnston also will be asked to go to Paris to effect a new film agreement with France in view of the fact that all recent efforts to settle the problem of payment of some \$9,000,000 in blocked funds of the industry there and to agree upon a new schedule of remittances have been unsuccessful.

An MPAA spokesman here yesterday denied a published report that Johnston would be accompanied to Europe by a squadron of 14 industry executives, all leaving from here Tuesday on the same plane.

"Any such mass excursion would be the worst possible strategy for handling the European problems at this time," the spokesman said. "If and when it is decided that it would be advisable for Johnston to make the trip he would be accompanied by O'Hara alone," the spokesman added.

Knutson Cautious

(Continued from page 1)

ment permit." Moreover, Knutson said, he "would be the last one to recommend a repeal of the great mass of these excise taxes, leaving the bulk of the Federal revenue to be derived from the income tax."

Knutson said the income tax must be coupled with "a broad excise tax base" in order to carry on "the cost of government."

Excises which will be cut first—when and if there are cuts—are those where "the rates in effect are operating as a resistance to the purchase of articles on the part of the consumer," Knutson declared. He did not specify which these might be.

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This year's: 126,700.

Sad commentary on the dear public, or enough of it, is to be found in Paramount's need to advertise "A Foreign Affair" as "A Foreign Affair Is a Funny Affair."

Buried in the news: That Universal was bidding for the stock of National Theatres before 20th-Fox repurchased it from Charlie Skouras, Rick Ricketson, Harold Fitzgerald and Elmer Rhoden.

Coming Events

Aug. 16-21—International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees bi-annual convention, Public Auditorium, Cleveland.

Aug. 24—Motion Picture Theatre Owners of Connecticut golf tournament, Racetrack Country Club, Orange, Conn.

Sept. 14-15—Independent Theatre Owners of Ohio convention, Deshler-Wallick Hotel, Columbus.

Sept. 14-16—Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners' trustees annual meeting, Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles.

Sept. 16-18—International Variety Clubs' mid-year convention, Statler Hotel, Washington.

Sept. 24-25—Theatre Owners of America convention, Drake Hotel, Chicago.

Sept. 27-30—Theatre Equipment and Supply Manufacturers Association national trade show and convention, Jefferson Hotel, St. Louis.

Sept. 28-29—Kansas-Missouri Theatre Association annual convention, Kansas City.

Oct. 14-15—Independent Theatre Owners of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan annual convention, Schroeder Hotel, Milwaukee.

Air Force to Cite Wartime Performers

WASHINGTON, August 11.—The U. S. Air Force will award scrolls to screen, stage and radio stars who entertained Air Force personnel overseas during the war at an Air Force reunion to be held on September 25 in Madison Square Garden, New York.

Producer Hal Roach has been asked to serve as chairman of the committee to nominate the entertainers to receive the scrolls. Other members of the committee, all members of the Air Force Association which is sponsoring the reunion, include Jack L. Warner, James Stewart, Clark Gable, Merian Cooper, Tex McCreary, and New York financier J. H. (Jock) Whitney.

Mid - Central Allied Regional August 18

ST. LOUIS, August 11.—The new Mid-Central Allied Independent Theatre Owners Association will start activating its field activities on August 18 when it will hold its first regional meeting, in Cape Girardeau, Mo. Henry Holloway is president of the organization.

Eastern Directors Of Allied Meet Here

Eastern regional directors of national Allied met here yesterday. Meyer Leventhal of Baltimore, Eastern regional vice-president, presided. Others in attendance included Sidney Samuelson, Jules Rivkin, Irving Dollinger, Wilbur Snaper, George Gold and Ed Lachman.

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WJZ-TV Debut Not Entirely Faultless

Tuesday night's inaugural program of WJZ-TV, American Broadcasting's New York television station, had some shortcomings, Frank Marx, the network's vice-president in charge of engineering, admitted here yesterday. He added, however, that those imperfections which did materialize had been expected and were not serious.

The station made its debut with an elaborate program originating at the Palace Theatre on Broadway. Home receiver sets had to be adjusted in order to allow for maximum quality reception on the new Channel No. 7. The fact that some receivers were not properly serviced accounted for somewhat distorted and indistinct figures on the screens, Marx said.

Also adding to the difficulty, he added, was the fact that the station had insufficient time for satisfactory preparation of the show at the Palace because the theatre was not made available until the same day of the telecast. Another factor, Marx said, was the use of remote equipment, obviously inferior to regular equipment. Marx concluded that reaction to the show was generally favorable.

WB Faces Threat

(Continued from page 1)

station. Warner said it would pay \$1,045,000 for the package.

Today Southern California Television asked the FCC to make Warner specify how much it planned to pay for each of the three stations, since it wanted to bid on the television station. FCC officials said that as far as they could recall, this was the first attempt by any firm to force other parties to break up a package deal.

Twentieth Century-Fox of St. Louis, meanwhile, finally filed with the FCC for a television station in St. Louis. This move, promised some weeks ago, brings to five the number of applications for commercial television stations by 20th-Fox firms. Others are pending for Boston, Kansas City, Seattle and San Francisco.

TOA's Youth Month

(Continued from page 1)

and Donaldson were Charles P. Skouras, national chairman of the TOA Youth Committee; Ted R. Gamble and Gael Sullivan, president and executive director, respectively, of TOA. Other Government figures included Senator Alben Barkley, Attorney General Tom Clark, and Treasury Secretary John Snyder.

Among other industry figures present were: Leon Bamberger, Sidney Lust, Lewen F. Pizor, Sam Shain, George P. Skouras, Spyros P. Skouras, Stanley W. Prenosil, Henry Murdoch, Harry Lowenstein, Albert Pinchus, and Kermit Stengel.

Newsreel cameras took pictures of the proceedings. "Youth Month will be launched nationally in September."

Endorsement by Ill. Allied

CHICAGO, August 11.—Endorsement of National Youth Month, which will be observed throughout the nation in September, has been approved by Allied Theatres of Illinois, Jack Kirsch, president, announces. Local Allied members are being urged to make their screens available for special trailers as well as aiding through community projects.

Film-Video Group to Name New Officers

Officers of the recently-formed National Television Film Council are to be nominated at a meeting on August 19 at Sardi's here, with elections scheduled for next September.

The right to perform music on television will be discussed at the August 19 meeting by Sidney Kaye, vice-president of Broadcast Music, Inc. Also on the agenda is a proposed standard exhibition contract for films on television. Melvin L. Gold is chairman of the organization and Robert W. Wormhoudt is secretary-treasurer.

Paramount Bid for Station Withdrawn

WASHINGTON, August 11.—The Federal Communications Commission has let Tri-State Meredith Co., 50 per cent owned by Paramount subsidiary Tri-State Theatres, withdraw its application to buy station KSO in Des Moines.

Tri-State asked to be let out of the deal when the FCC asked for long opinions on what effect Paramount's interest in the station should have in light of the Supreme Court's Paramount trust suit decision.

20th-Fox Forms New Film-Video Firm

ALBANY, N. Y., August 11.—Twentieth Century-Fox Television Productions, Inc., has been chartered here to produce films for television.

Norman B. Steinberg, 20th-Fox attorney who represented the company in the incorporation of the new television firm, said here yesterday that no further action, other than actual incorporation, has been taken by the new unit.

To Judge NAB Contest

WASHINGTON, August 11.—Motion Picture Association of America president Eric Johnston and film actor James Stewart are among the eight judges in the National Association of Broadcasters' second annual "Voice of Democracy" contest in which scholarships are awarded to the four high school students delivering the best five-minute broadcasts on "I Speak for Democracy."

Columbus to Get Video

COLUMBUS, O., August 11.—First local television station to begin construction is WBNT-TV, owned by the Columbus Dispatch, which announced start of work on or about August 15. It will be affiliated with CBS.

Rogers Fund Meet Set

CLEVELAND, August 11.—Plans for raising the local quota of \$75,000 for the Will Rogers Memorial Hospital will be discussed at a luncheon meeting on Monday of Cleveland exhibitors. The affair is being held by a committee headed by I. J. Schmertz.

House Labor Group

(Continued from page 1)

testimony from Conference of Studio Unions head Herbert K. Sorrell.

But when Congress quit all members of the committee left town, and Hartley had to call the meeting off. There will probably not be another meeting until after the elections.

CBS Television in 80 Cities Planned

A four-year expansion program intended to give the network affiliated or wholly-owned television stations in 80 cities was announced by Herbert V. Akerberg, vice-president in charge of station relations for Columbia Broadcasting. Five new CBS television outlets are scheduled to begin operation this year, in Toledo, Cleveland, Detroit, Atlanta, and Los Angeles.

CBS has its own video station in New York, WCBS-TV, and has applications pending for others in Boston, Chicago and San Francisco. Akerberg reported that programs on film will be supplied to the CBS affiliates which require that service until coaxial cable or micro-wave relay systems are developed.

Urge 'Protection'

(Continued from page 1)

stances where Ascapi has returned contracts to theatre owners because of the cancellation clause being inserted. He recalled the 60-day cancellation clause was provided for in the agreement between TOA and Ascapi reached last February 6.

The KATO further stated the decision of Judge Leibell does not eliminate the payment for performing rights to Ascapi by theatres. It would take the repeal of the Federal Copyright Law to do that, it added. Judge Leibell's decision was in an anti-trust case and if sustained on appeal means only that copyright owners will be paid for performing rights in a way other than through Ascapi, KATO reminds.

Where contracts are returned unaccepted by Ascapi, theatre owners are told that they should keep the envelope containing the post office stamp with the returned contract enclosed, and not sign the new contract.

Col. Acquires

(Continued from page 1)

are strictly "if and when" in character, Taps said, adding that prices for performing rights are agreed upon but no payment will be made until and unless Judge Vincent Leibell's decision is upheld.

Amplifying on the deal he concluded after policy conferences with Columbia's legal counsel in New York, Taps said the terms for performing rights varied from one-third to 100 per cent of prices paid for recording rights.

Recording rights for the average musical picture run as high as \$200,000. Thus, under Columbia's arrangement, cost of performing rights for such a picture would range from \$70,000 to \$200,000.

Omaha Services for Schlaifer's Father

OMAHA, August 11.—Funeral services were held here today for A. Schlaifer, pioneer Omahan and father of Charles Schlaifer, director of advertising-publicity for 20th Century-Fox. Schlaifer passed away when complications developed following a fall which resulted in a fractured hip last Wednesday.

A leader in the business, civic and cultural life of Omaha, Schlaifer, who recently observed his 56th wedding anniversary, is survived by the widow, Ziril, and four other sons, Israel, Leo, Nathan and Morrie.

King George Honors Col. 'Jock' Lawrence

LONDON, August 11.—J. B. L. (Jock) Lawrence, executive vice-president of the J. Arthur Rank Organization in the U. S., who was a Colonel in the last war, has been made an honorary officer of the military division of the Order of the British Empire by King George.

Lawrence was cited for his work under Lord Louis Mountbatten when the latter was chief of combined army operations in the ETO in World War II. The award also was in recognition for his service with the Commandoes, with the ETO Services of Supply and as chief public relations officer of the American Forces in the ETO. He will return to New York in two weeks.

John Ford Cited in Film Festival Award

John Ford was cited as best director of the year at the annual International Film Festival at Locarno, Switzerland. Other awards were conferred on 20th Century-Fox's "Miracle on 34th Street" as the best screen adaptation and Richard Widmark as best supporting actor.

In addition, Hildegard Neff, 22-year-old starlet who is now in Hollywood under contract to David O. Selznick, was cited for her acting in "Film Without Title," produced last year in the American zone in Berlin, it was reported here yesterday by the Selznick Releasing Organization.

MPAA to Map

(Continued from page 1)

ter with Ambassador Lewis Douglas and perhaps with British officials in an effort to speed action before the quota becomes effective October 1.

As reported August 4 in MOTION PICTURE DAILY, it is regarded as extremely likely that Johnston also will be asked to go to Paris to effect a new film agreement with France in view of the fact that all recent efforts to settle the problem of payment of some \$9,000,000 in blocked funds of the industry there and to agree upon a new schedule of remittances have been unsuccessful.

An MPAA spokesman here yesterday denied a published report that Johnston would be accompanied to Europe by a squadron of 14 industry executives, all leaving from here Tuesday on the same plane.

"Any such mass excursion would be the worst possible strategy for handling the European problems at this time," the spokesman said. "If and when it is decided that it would be advisable for Johnston to make the trip he would be accompanied by O'Hara alone," the spokesman added.

Knutson Cautious

(Continued from page 1)

ment permit." Moreover, Knutson said, he "would be the last one to recommend a repeal of the great mass of these excise taxes, leaving the bulk of the Federal revenue to be derived from the income tax."

Knutson said the income tax must be coupled with "a broad excise tax base" in order to carry on "the cost of government."

Excises which will be cut first—when and if there are cuts—are those where "the rates in effect are operating as a resistance to the purchase of articles on the part of the consumer," Knutson declared. He did not specify which these might be.

NOTHING EVER HELD YOU LIKE



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JAMES S

WARNER BROS.

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SIR CEDRIC HARDWICKE · CONSTANCE COLLIER

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IN COLOR BY
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STEWART

AUGUST 26

MAN CHANDLER A TRANSATLANTIC PICTURES PRODUCTION



Estimates of Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY correspondents. Estimates omit admission tax.

LOS ANGELES

"Feudin', Fussin' and A-Fightin'" took the laugh-hungry town in stride, closely followed by the novelty-slanted "16 Fathoms Deep," in a week of generally improved business. "Walls of Jericho" did very well. Weather was ideal, and counter attractions normal. Estimated receipts for the week ending August 11:

FEUDIN', FUSSIN' AND A-FIGHTIN' (U-I) and **BAD SISTER (U-I-Rank)**—GUILD (965) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00) 5 days. Gross: \$7,000. (Average: \$5,450)
FEUDIN', FUSSIN' AND A-FIGHTIN' (U-I) and **BAD SISTER (U-I-Rank)**—IRIS (708) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00) 5 days. Gross: \$8,500. (Average: \$6,100)
FEUDIN', FUSSIN' AND A-FIGHTIN' (U-I) and **BAD SISTER (U-I-Rank)**—RITZ (1,376) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00) 5 days. Gross: \$9,500. (Average: \$9,050)
FEUDIN', FUSSIN' AND A-FIGHTIN' (U-I) and **BAD SISTER (U-I-Rank)**—STUDIO (880) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00) 5 days. Gross: \$8,000. (Average: \$6,300)
FEUDIN', FUSSIN' AND A-FIGHTIN' (U-I) and **BAD SISTER (U-I-Rank)**—UNITED ARTISTS (2,100) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00) 5 days. Gross: \$14,500. (Average: \$9,580)

A FOREIGN AFFAIR (Para.) and **BIG TOWN SCANDAL (Para.)**—PARAMOUNT (Downtown) (3,595) (50c-60c-80c-\$1.00) 3rd week. Gross: \$11,500. (Average: \$13,000)
A FOREIGN AFFAIR (Para.)—PARAMOUNT (Hollywood) (1,407) (50c-60c-80c-\$1.00) 3rd week. Gross: \$12,500. (Average: \$13,000)

KEY LARGO (WB) and **MUSIC MAN (Mono.)**—WARNERS (Downtown) (3,400) (50c-60c-80c-\$1.00) 5 days, 4th week. Gross: \$10,000. (Average: \$13,730)

KEY LARGO (WB) and **MUSIC MAN (Mono.)**—WARNERS (Hollywood) (3,000) (50c-60c-80c-\$1.00) 5 days, 4th week. Gross: \$8,000. (Average: \$11,650)

KEY LARGO (WB) and **MUSIC MAN (Mono.)**—WARNERS (Wilmet) (2,300) (50c-60c-80c-\$1.00) 5 days, 4th week. Gross: \$7,500. (Average: \$11,220)

MELODY TIME (RKO Radio-Disney) and **MYSTERY IN MEXICO (RKO Radio)**—HILLSTREET (2,700) (50c-60c-80c-\$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: \$14,000. (Average: \$18,950)

MELODY TIME (RKO Radio-Disney) and **MYSTERY IN MEXICO (RKO Radio)**—PANTAGES (2,600) (50c-60c-80c-\$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: \$13,000. (Average: \$17,150)

ON AN ISLAND WITH YOU (M-G-M)—EGYPTIAN (1,000) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00) 4 days, 3rd week. Gross: \$6,500. (Average: \$11,900)

ON AN ISLAND WITH YOU (M-G-M)—FOX WILSHIRE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00) 4 days, 3rd week. Gross: \$5,500. (Average: \$12,850)

ON AN ISLAND WITH YOU (M-G-M)—LOS ANGELES (2,096) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00) 4 days, 3rd week. Gross: \$8,500. (Average: \$13,100)

THE SEARCH (M-G-M)—FOUR STAR (900) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00) 6th week. Gross: \$6,500. (Average: \$7,450)

SIXTEEN FATHOMS DEEP (Mono.) and **MICHAEL O'HALLORAN (Mono.)**—BELMONT (1,600) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00) Gross: \$6,000. (Average: \$5,750)

SIXTEEN FATHOMS DEEP (Mono.) and **MICHAEL O'HALLORAN (Mono.)**—EL REY (861) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00). Gross: \$6,000. (Average: \$4,700)

SIXTEEN FATHOMS DEEP (Mono.) and **MICHAEL O'HALLORAN (Mono.)**—ORPHEUM (2,210) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00). Gross: \$18,000. (Average: \$14,650)

SIXTEEN FATHOMS DEEP (Mono.) and **MICHAEL O'HALLORAN (Mono.)**—VOGUE (800) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00). Gross: \$8,000. (Average: \$6,500)

THE VICIOUS CIRCLE (UA-Wilder) and **OLYMPIC CAVALCADE (UA)**—MUSIC HALL (Beverly Hills) (900) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00) 6 days. Gross: \$1,600. (Average: \$3,150)

THE VICIOUS CIRCLE (UA-Wilder) and **OLYMPIC CAVALCADE (UA)**—MUSIC HALL (Downtown) (900) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00) 6 days. Gross: \$3,000. (Average: \$7,550)

THE VICIOUS CIRCLE (UA-Wilder) and **OLYMPIC CAVALCADE (UA)**—MUSIC HALL (Hawaii) (1,000) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00) 6 days. Gross: \$1,600. (Average: \$3,400)

THE VICIOUS CIRCLE (UA-Wilder) and **OLYMPIC CAVALCADE (UA)**—MUSIC

HALL (Hollywood) (490) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00) 6 days. Gross: \$1,500. (Average: \$3,100)

THE WALLS OF JERICHO (20th-Fox) and **I WOULDN'T BE IN YOUR SHOES (Mono.)**—CARTHAY CIRCLE (1,516) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00) 6 days. Gross: \$9,500. (Average: \$9,500)

THE WALLS OF JERICHO (20th-Fox) and **I WOULDN'T BE IN YOUR SHOES (Mono.)**—CHINESE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00) 6 days. Gross: \$17,000. (Average: \$13,000)

THE WALLS OF JERICHO (20th-Fox) and **I WOULDN'T BE IN YOUR SHOES (Mono.)**—LOEW'S STATE (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00) 6 days. Gross: \$24,500. (Average: \$19,800)

THE WALLS OF JERICHO (20th-Fox) and **I WOULDN'T BE IN YOUR SHOES (Mono.)**—LOYOLA (1,265) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00) 6 days. Gross: \$10,500. (Average: \$10,000)

THE WALLS OF JERICHO (20th-Fox) and **I WOULDN'T BE IN YOUR SHOES (Mono.)**—UPTOWN (1,716) (50c-60c-85c-\$1.00) 6 days. Gross: \$10,500. (Average: \$10,000)

PHILADELPHIA

A host of new bookings helped boost grosses this week with "The Fuller Brush Man" at the Earle and "The Pearl" at the Aldine doing standout business. "Key Largo," carrying over at the Stanley is also faring well. Estimated receipts for the week ending August 12:

A DATE WITH JUDY (M-G-M)—FOX (3,000) (50c-60c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: \$20,000. (Average: \$20,800)

DEEP WATERS (20th-Fox)—KEITH (2,200) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd run. Gross: \$3,500. (Average: \$6,200)

EASTER PARADE (M-G-M)—MASTBAUM (4,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 5th week. Gross: \$15,000. (Average: \$22,300)

FULLER BRUSH MAN (Col.)—EARLE (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: \$28,500. (Average: \$22,500)

KEY LARGO (WB)—STANLEY (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: \$28,700. (Average: \$22,800)

THE PEARL (RKO Radio)—ALDINE (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) Gross: \$19,000. (Average: \$13,300)

RETURN OF THE BAD MEN (RKO Radio)—STANTON (1,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: \$15,500. (Average: \$11,200)

SO EVIL MY LOVE (Para.)—KARLTON (1,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: \$10,500. (Average: \$11,200)

TAP ROOTS (U-I)—GOLDMAN (1,400) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 4th week. Gross: \$19,000. (Average: \$19,400)

UP IN CENTRAL PARK (U-I)—BOYD (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: \$14,000. (Average: \$20,300)

UNCONQUERED (Para.)—ARCADIA (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd run. Gross: \$4,300. (Average: \$4,700)

CLEVELAND

"Key Largo" with a record \$28,500 at Warners' Hippodrome, made by far the best showing of the week and even did business on Sunday when most fans were at the Stadium to watch two ball games. Other houses report a Sunday drop with a Monday comeback. Weather was cool and clear. Estimated receipts for the week ending August 10-11:

BLACK ARROW (Col.)—RKO PALACE (3,300) (70c-95c) Also **SUPERMAN SERIAL**. Gross: \$17,000. (Average: \$16,000)

EASTER PARADE (M-G-M)—LOEW'S STILLMAN (1,900) (50c-70c) 3rd week, following two weeks at the State. Gross: \$13,500. (Average: \$10,500)

FOUR FACES WEST (UA)—RKO ALLEN (3,000) (55c-70c). Gross: \$13,500. (Average: \$13,800)

KEY LARGO (WB)—WARNER'S HIPPODROME (3,500) (55c-70c). Gross: \$28,500. (Average: \$15,000)

OPEN CITY (Realt) and **CARMEN (Realt)**—LOWER MALL (563) (50c-70c) Both are repeat runs. Gross: \$3,000. (Average: \$2,500)

THE PARADISE CASE (SRO)—LEOW'S STATE (3,300) (50c-70c). Gross: \$23,000. (Average: \$19,300)

THE SEARCH (M-G-M)—LOEW'S OHIO

(1,268) (50c-70c) 2 days on a hold-over from the previous big week, and **GALLANT LEGION (Rep.)** 5 days. Gross: \$6,000. (Average: \$6,200)

THE STREET WITH NO NAME (20th-Fox)—WARNER'S LAKE (714) (55c-70c) 4th week, of which 2 weeks were at the Hippodrome and 2 weeks were at the Lake. Gross: \$3,000. (Average: \$3,000)

CHICAGO

Loop attendance is very steady. Conventioneers are boosting business immeasurably. "Time of Your Life" and Horace Heidt led a crop of strong box-office films. Estimated receipts for the week ending August 12:

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—ROOSEVELT (1,500) (50c-55c-98c) 5 days, 2nd week. **LIFE WITH FATHER**, 2 days. Gross: \$14,500. (Average: \$18,000)

EMPEROR WALTZ (Para.)—CHICAGO (3,900) (50c-65c-98c) 4th week. On stage: Harmonicats. Gross: \$45,000. (Average: \$53,500)

FEUDIN', FUSSIN' AND A-FIGHTIN' (U-I)—GRAND (1,150) (50c-65c-98c). Gross: \$12,000. (Average: \$11,500)

HOLD THAT GHOST (E-I) and **HIRED WIFE (E-L)**—GARRICK (1,000) (50c-65c-98c). Gross: \$10,000. (Average: \$10,000)

LULU BELLE (Col.)—APOLLO (1,200) (50c-65c-98c). Gross: \$12,000. (Average: \$14,000)

MELODY TIME (RKO Radio)—PALACE (2,500) (50c-65c-98c) 5 days, 2nd week. **ABBOTT AND COSTELLO MEET FRANKENSTEIN (U-I)**, 2 days. Gross: \$20,000. (Average: \$21,000)

ON AN ISLAND WITH YOU (M-G-M)—STATE LAKE (50c-65c-98c) (2,700). Gross: \$25,000. (Average: \$25,000)

THE PARADISE CASE (SRO)—WOODS (1,080) (98c)—5 days, 4th week. **EASTER PARADE (M-G-M)**, 2 days. Gross: \$23,000. (Average: \$23,000)

SO EVIL MY LOVE (Para.)—UNITED ARTISTS (1,700) (50c-65c-98c) 5 days, 2nd week. **SUMMER HOLIDAY (M-G-M)** 2 days. Gross: \$17,000. (Average: \$20,000)

THE TIME OF YOUR LIFE (UA)—ORIENTAL (3,300) (50c-65c-98c). On stage: Horace Heidt. Gross: \$70,000. (Average: \$45,000)

OMAHA

Omaha theatres averaged a little below par in a week that saw temperatures unseasonably cool with several showers. Estimated receipts for the week ending August 11-12:

BIG CITY (M-G-M) and **OLD LOS ANGELES (Rep.)**—STATE (750) (50c-65c) 2nd week. Gross: \$4,700. (Average: \$4,900)

THE FIGHTING SIXTY-NINTH (WB) and **VALLEY OF THE GIANTS (WB)**—OMAHA (2,000) (50c-65c). Gross: \$7,600. (Average: \$8,500)

KEY LARGO (WB)—KRO BRANDEIS (1,100) (50c-65c). Gross: \$10,000. (Average: \$6,000)

ON AN ISLAND WITH YOU (M-G-M)—PARAMOUNT (2,900) (50c-65c). Gross: \$8,600. (Average: \$11,400)

WALLFLOWER (WB) and **SHAGGY (Para.)**—ORPHEUM (3,000) (50c-65c). Gross: \$8,600. (Average: \$9,900)

DENVER

"Best Years of Our Lives" will get an eighth week at the Broadway, with the fifth, sixth and seventh tying for money. Other business is fair to good. Receipts for the week ended August 6-7:

BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—BROADWAY (1,500) (35c-74c) 7th week. Gross: \$7,000. (Average: \$7,000)

EASTER PARADE (M-G-M) and **DEAR MURDERER (U-I)**—ORPHEUM (2,600) (35c-74c) 2nd week. Gross: \$12,000. (Average: \$13,500)

KEY LARGO (WB) and **STAGE STRUCK (Mono.)**—RIALTO (878) (35c-74c) After a week at the Denver, Esquire, Webber and Aladdin. Gross: \$4,600. (Average: \$3,000)

ON OUR MERRY WAY (UA) and **CODE OF SCOTLAND YARD (Rep.)**—DENVER (2,525) (35c-74c). Gross: \$15,000. (Average: \$13,000)

ON OUR MERRY WAY (UA) and **CODE OF SCOTLAND YARD (Rep.)**—ESQUIRE (742) (35c-74c). Gross: \$3,500. (Average: \$2,000)

RIVER LADY (U-I) and **DEVIL'S CARGO (FC)**—PARAMOUNT (2,200) (35c-74c). Gross: \$10,500. (Average: \$10,000)

RIVER LADY (U-I) and **DEVIL'S CARGO (FC)**—WEBBER (750) (35c-74c). Gross: \$2,500. (Average: \$2,000)

SO EVIL MY LOVE (Para.)—DENHAM (1,750) (35c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: \$7,000. (Average: \$11,000)

STREET WITH NO NAME (20th-Fox) and **SHANGHAI CHEST (Mono.)**—ALADDIN (1,400) (35c-74c) After a week at the Denver and Esquire. Gross: \$3,500. (Average: \$2,500)

PITTSBURGH

For a second straight week "Easter Parade" topped grosses locally. Estimated receipts for the week ending August 12:

BRING 'EM BACK ALIVE (RKO Radio reissue)—WARNER (2,000) (44c-60c-76c). Gross: \$9,000. (Average: \$8,000)

DEEP WATERS (20th-Fox)—FULTON (1,700) (44c-60c-76c). Gross: \$11,000. (Average: \$9,700)

DRUMS (FC reissue) and **FOUR FEATHES (FC reissue)**—RITZ (1,100) (44c-60c-76c). Gross: \$4,000. (Average: \$3,500)

EASTER PARADE (M-G-M)—PENN (3,400) (44c-60c-76c) 2nd week. Gross: \$19,000. (Average: \$15,000)

LIFE WITH FATHER (WB)—STANLEY (3,800) (44c-60c-76c). Gross: \$12,000. (Average: \$15,000)

ROSE OF WASHINGTON SQUARE (20th-Fox reissue) and **SLAVE SHIP (20th-Fox reissue)**—SENATOR (1,700) (44c-60c-76c). Gross: \$4,500. (Average: \$3,500)

THE WALLS OF JERICHO (20th-Fox)—HARRIS (2,000) (44c-60c-76c). Gross: \$13,000. (Average: \$11,000)

SAN FRANCISCO

"Key Largo" at the Fox chalked up a smash week. Other business was average. Estimated San Francisco grosses for the week ending August 11:

A DATE WITH JUDY (M-G-M)—WARRFIELD (2,672) (60c-85c) 2nd week. Gross: \$14,000. (Average: \$18,800)

A FOREIGN AFFAIR (Para.)—S1. FRANCIS (1,430) (60c-85c) 2nd week. Gross: \$15,500. (Average: \$14,600)

ABBOTT AND COSTELLO MEET FRANKENSTEIN (U-I) and **TAKE MY LIFE (E-L)**—ORPHEUM (2,440) (55c-85c) 2nd week. Gross: \$14,500. (Average: \$14,700)

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.) and **SHE COULDN'T TAKE IT (Col.)**—STATE (2,135) (60c-85c). Gross: \$8,000. (Average: \$8,500)

KEY LARGO (WB) and **THE BIG PUNCH (WB)**—FOX (4,651) (60c-85c). Gross: \$35,000. (Average: \$23,000)

KEY LARGO (WB) and **THE BIG PUNCH (WB)**—UNITED NATIONS (1,129) (60c-85c). Gross: \$7,200. (Average: \$9,900)

LIFE WITH FATHER (WB) and **KING OF THE GAMBLERS (Rep.)**—PARAMOUNT (2,735) (60c-85c). Gross: \$15,500. (Average: \$19,500)

MELODY TIME (RKO Radio)—RKO Golden Gate (2,835) (95c) 2nd week. Gross: \$15,000. (Average: \$27,000)

SO THIS IS NEW YORK (UA) and **COURAGEOUS MR. PENN (Hoffberg)**—UNITED ARTISTS (1,465) (85c). Gross: \$16,000. (Average: \$11,300)

YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU (Col.) and **PENNIES FROM HEAVEN (Col.)**—ESQUIRE (1,008) (55c-85c). Gross: \$6,400. (Average: \$9,000)

'River' for Capitol

United Artists' "Red River" will go into the Capitol here after the engagement of the company's "Pitfall," which opens on August 19.

'Ruthless' Opening

Eagle-Lion's "Ruthless," starring Zachary Scott and Diana Lynn, will open at the Gotham Theatre here September 3.

'Carmen' for State

Columbia's "The Loves of Carmen" will open at Loew's State here following the engagement of "Easter Parade."

Accurate
Concise
and
Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

FIRST
IN
FILM
NEWS

64. NO. 31

NEW YORK, U. S. A., FRIDAY, AUGUST 13, 1948

TEN CENTS

O'Brien Asks Joint US-UK Film Council

NATKE Official Insists Cooperation Imperative

Formation of a joint organization by the British and American industries to deal with mutual problems was again urged by Tom O'Brien, member of Parliament, and general secretary of the National Association of Theatrical and Kine Employees, as he arrived here yesterday from England on the *SS Queen Mary*.

O'Brien, who made such a proposal while here some time ago, said he would take up this and other matters with Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association of America, when they confer the week after.

(Continued on page 5)

Full Remittances Seen from Brazil

Although U. S. distributors can now take about 75 per cent of their money out of Brazil, they will be in a position to remit all of their earnings there as soon as enough dollars are available, it was said here yesterday by Ned Seckler, RKO Radio's Brazilian manager.

It was estimated that U. S. companies earned from \$7,000,000 to \$8,000,000 in Brazil last year. Seckler reported that, while film business currently shows a decline in Brazil, RKO is doing 35 per cent better there this year than last, on the basis of figures for the first half of 1948. He attributed this to an improvement in playing time.

According to Seckler, the high cost of building and scarcity of materials are hampering the construction of new theatres in Brazil.

Interviewed at the same time, Pedro

(Continued on page 5)

Jackpot Game for Theatres Being Set

"Puzzle-Bank," a new theatre audience participation game, will shortly be introduced to theatres by Curtis Mitchell, former advertising-publicity director of Paramount, and his associates in Enterprise House, Inc., the New York sponsoring company.

Mitchell, who demonstrated the

(Continued on page 5)

Drive-in Exhibitors to Form Own Association

CHARLOTTE, Aug. 12. — A third national and unique exhibitor organization is a potentiality.

Owners and operators of 120 drive-in theatres in this part of the South, principally in the Carolinas, have been invited by R. O. Jeffress of this city to meet here on Aug. 29 to organize the Drive-in Theatre Association for their mutual benefit and protection. It is the first move of its kind in the South, says Jeffress, and, so far as is known, the first in the country. It might spread nationally.

Chief among the many complaints of potential and operating drive-in exhibitors are local restrictions and inability in many cases to get new top product, except in those situations which involve projects conducted by exhibitors who have the buying power of a string of regular theatres.

The average drive-in can accommodate 600 cars, which, with an average capacity of four persons, represents an audience of 2,400. That could mean a \$1,200 gross for a single performance at an average admission of 50 cents. Jeffress operates the Ford-Rock Drive-in, between Fort Mill and Rock-hill, S. C.

4 Latin Countries In Reciprocal Deal

By PEDRO GONZALES

MADRID, Aug. 9 (By Airmail)—Argentina, Mexican, Cuban and Spanish delegates to the Congreso Hispano Americano de Cinematografia have agreed to have permanent headquarters in Madrid with branches in the other countries, to work for harmony between the countries on such matters as duties and taxes, and to promote Spanish-language features. The Congreso urges that dubbing in Spanish be curtailed, that only the best foreign features be allowed to be dubbed.

U.A. to Distribute Series on Israel

A worldwide distribution deal has been closed by United Artists with Palestine Films, Inc., for the latter's news-review series titled "Israel Today," short subject documentaries on Israel, to be released once monthly. First issue to go through U.A. will be "Israel in Action." Introductory release of the series, "Israel Reborn," was distributed by 20th Century-Fox.

Deal was negotiated by Arthur W. Kelly, United Artists vice-president, and Norman Lourie, president of Palestine Films

Essaness Halts Its Payments to Ascap

Chicago, Aug. 12.—Essaness has joined the list of circuits which is withholding payments to Ascap for music license fees as a result of the New York Federal Court ruling holding the society in violation of anti-trust laws.

U-I Lists 24, Six in Color

Universal-International's production, distribution and home office executives yesterday concluded a series of Coast studio meetings where the company's annual production program was set to include 24 "top-budget" pictures, including six in Technicolor, the home office announces.

Details of the program were outlined by Leo Spitz and William Goetz, U-I's production chiefs. The Technicolor films will include "Bloomer Girl," "Adventures of Sam Bass," "Bagdad," "Tomahawk," "Sierra" and "Streets of Cairo." Among the others are "Harvey," "Night Watch," "Am-boy Dukes," "Come Be My Love," "Paradise Lost—1948," "Air Crash," "Life of Riley," "The Gay Goddess," "Illegal Entry," "The Fatal Step," "It Gives Me Great Pleasure," "Ma and Pa Kettle," "Arctic Manhunt," "The Western Story," "Shoplifter," "Salem Frigate," and "Homicide Squad."

RKO Radio Sets 18 Through Early '49

RKO Radio has 12 pictures ready for release between now and the end of the year, Robert Mochrie, distribution vice-president, told a meeting of home office and Metropolitan area sales executives at the Hotel Astor here yesterday.

Additionally, six new productions, screened for him during his recent visit to the Coast, have been scheduled for early release in 1949, including: Walter Wanger's "Joan of Arc," "Every Girl Should Be Married," "Baltimore Escape," "Interference," Walt Disney's "So Dear to My

(Continued on page 2)

Agnew Leaving SRO, Vanguard Posts Sept. 1

Plans Retirement; No Successor Decided Upon

Neil F. Agnew has resigned as president of Selznick Releasing Organization, effective Sept. 1, the company announced in Hollywood

yesterday. Agnew has no plans for future activity in the industry and close associates of his said yesterday that he plans to reside about half of each year in France and the other half at his Southbury, Conn., farm. Mrs. Agnew is a native of France.



Neil F. Agnew

SRO officials said in Hollywood yesterday that no decision has been made yet on the appointment of a

(Continued on page 2)

MPEA to Consider Blum-Byrnes Accord

WASHINGTON, Aug. 12.—Meeting of the Motion Picture Export Association which had been set for Monday and may be pushed back to Tuesday will consider details of the proposed revision of the Blum-Byrnes accord, it was disclosed today. An official State Department text of the proposed changes in the French accord is being circulated among top industry officials, but neither State

(Continued on page 5)

US Increases Films For 65 Countries

WASHINGTON, Aug. 12.—Increased appropriations will allow the film division of the U. S. State Department's overseas information program to show more pictures to more people in 1948-49, according to division chief Herbert T. Edwards, who anticipates an audience of 10,000,000 persons monthly in 65 countries.

The film section, like the rest of

(Continued on page 5)

Personal Mention

HERBERT J. YATES, Republic president, is due here from Europe next Friday.

JULES LAPIDUS, Warner Eastern division manager; "DINTY" MOORE, district manager, and RAY SMITH, Albany manager, were at the Schine circuit office in Gloversville, N. Y., yesterday. MOORE is due next in Buffalo.

CAPT. HAROLD AUTEN of United Artists was host at a dinner at the Lotos Club here last night to PAUL LAZARUS, JR., CHESTER BAHN, JAMES JERAULD, SHERWIN KANE and MIKE WEAR.

HUGH OWEN, Paramount's Eastern-Southern division sales manager, left here yesterday on a trip to the Albany and Buffalo branches. He is due back Monday.

HARRY M. KALMINE, Warner Theatres president and general manager, and W. STEWART McDONALD, vice-president, will return to New York Monday from Washington.

FRANK N. PHELPS, Warner Theatres head of labor relations, will leave New York tonight to attend the IATSE convention in Cleveland.

ROBERT WOLFF, managing director of RKO Radio in Britain, will sail for London tonight on the *SS Queen Mary*.

CASWELL ADAMS, United Artists New York newspaper contact, will start a two-week vacation today.

HARRY GOLDBERG, Warner Theatres advertising-publicity director, returned here yesterday from the Coast.

Rites Tomorrow for Robert C. Bruce, 61

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 12.—Funeral services will be held Saturday at Wee Kirk of the Heather, Forest Lawn, for Robert C. Bruce, 61, pioneer travelogue producer, and his one-day-old daughter, Roberta, who died on the same day and at the same hospital, Queen of Angels, shortly before her father. Bruce succumbed to pneumonia. A double burial will be held at Forest Lawn Cemetery.

Survivors include the widow, Roberta's twin sister, two sons, Robert C., Jr., and Douglas; a sister and a brother. Bruce, who was inactive in pictures for several years, recently formed a new company, Locations Unlimited, to make available to producers his vast collection of stock shots of remote areas filmed for his travelogues.

Harry Foster's Father

Funeral services will be held here today at the Schwartz Funeral Home for Nathan Foster, father of Columbia short subject director Harry Foster.

Midwest Exhibitors Spark 'Youth Month'

KANSAS CITY, Aug. 12.—Commonwealth Theatres has made "Youth Month" activities a feature of its managers' meeting to be held Sept. 14-15. At that time managers will report on their specific efforts and the support garnered among local groups.

Meanwhile, on another front of the September observance, a committee including local theatremen, following a recent meeting of the Kansas City theatre committee with the welfare board and other youth agencies, is being set up to carry out the public relations aspect of the Youth Month activities in Kansas City.

E. C. Rhoden, Missouri, and Homer Strowig, Kansas, co-chairmen of the Youth Month program in this area, have pointed out that plans for assisting local groups in celebrating Youth Month should, wherever possible, also be geared to year-round assistance in the development of activities in behalf of youth, this program to embrace not only 'teen-agers but also those in their early 'twenties.

Skouras, Gamble Discuss Aid Of Radio and Sports Writers

Charles P. Skouras, national chairman of the Youth Month Committee, and Ted R. Gamble, president of the Theatre Owners of America, were hosts to radio representatives at a luncheon and to sports writers at a dinner here yesterday to discuss cooperation in the campaign.

Screen Plays in Deal For Stillman Backing

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 12.—Completion of a deal under which the John Stillman financial interests of New York will supply \$2,000,000 backing for its next five features, with banks to furnish the remainder, was announced today by Screen Plays, Inc. The first film, Ring Lardner's "Champion," will go into production in 60 days. All five pictures are for United Artists release.

2 Technicolor Dividends

Two dividends each of 25 cents a share, one payable Sept. 10 to stockholders of record on Aug. 24, and the other payable on Oct. 8 to stockholders of record on Sept. 20, were declared yesterday by the Technicolor board of directors.

Variety Club Outing

BALTIMORE, Aug. 12.—The Variety Club, Baltimore Tent, No. 19, will hold its annual outing Tuesday at Camp Ritchie, Md., near the Pennsylvania line. Governor Lane of Maryland and Mayor D'Alasandro of Baltimore will be guests. Sam Tabor is chairman of the committee in charge.

Patterson Quits 'U'

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 12.—Pat Patterson, columnist and trade paper contact at the Universal studio for the past six years, has resigned, effective Aug. 21. Patterson entered studio publicity here after posts with Coast theatre circuits.

Agnew Resigns

(Continued from page 1)

successor to Agnew who, in addition to being president of SRO, was also vice-president and general sales manager of David O. Selznick's Vanguard Films. He relinquishes that post also. It is understood that Agnew's desire to reside in France a large part of each year led to his resignation after he had been unable to work out a mutually agreeable arrangement with Selznick which would permit that.

Milton S. Kusell is second in command at SRO and Vanguard sales headquarters in New York, being general sales manager of the former and sales manager of the latter.

Agnew entered the industry as a booker in the Paramount exchange in Chicago in 1920. He advanced to salesman, to branch manager at Milwaukee, branch manager at Chicago, and then to district manager, with headquarters in Chicago, all for Paramount. In 1932 he was appointed Paramount Western division manager; in 1933, assistant sales manager, and in 1934 was named general sales manager of Paramount. In 1935 he was named vice-president in charge of distribution and a director of Paramount. He resigned that post in April, 1944, to join Vanguard and was elected to the United Artists board as Selznick's representative in that year. He retired from the U. A. board when Selznick disposed of his U. A. stock interest.

Greenblatt to Hold 3 Screen Guild Meets

Three Screen Guild sales meetings will be held in the next two weeks, the first in Chicago starting tomorrow and ending Monday. Arthur Greenblatt, Eastern sales manager, has left New York for Chicago and then will go to Memphis for an Aug. 19-21 parley. He will then fly to San Francisco for the final meeting on Aug. 27-29 and for talks with Screen Guild president Robert L. Lippert to set advertising campaigns for several releases. Greenblatt will return here on Sept. 10.

2 New Opening Day Records in Chicago

CHICAGO, Aug. 12.—RKO Palace and Essaness' Woods theatres in the Loop both established new opening day figures on Wednesday with Universal-International's "Abbott and Costello Meet Frankenstein" and M-G-M's "Easter Parade," respectively. The former hit \$7,500, the latter \$6,400.

RKO Radio Sets 18

(Continued from page 1)

Heart" and Samuel Goldwyn's "Enchantment."

The 12 for the remainder of this year listed by Mochrie include: "The Pearl," "Mystery in Mexico," "Variety Time," "The Velvet Touch," "Good Sam," "Race Street," "Rachel and the Stranger," "Mourning Becomes Electra," "Station West," "A Song Is Born," "The Twisted Road" and "The Boy with the Green Hair."

E-L Luncheon for Milton E. Cohen

Circuit executives and exhibitors of the Pennsylvania-New Jersey-Maryland areas will attend a luncheon at the Warwick Hotel in Philadelphia on Tuesday to meet Milton E. Cohen, Eagle-Lion's new Eastern division manager. Also present will be Paul Henreid, E-L star-producer; William J. Heineman, distribution vice-president; Max E. Youngstein, advertising-publicity vice-president; L. J. Schaffer, sales executive, and Harry man, Philadelphia branch manager.

Following the luncheon, Cohen will leave with Henreid for Reading to attend the world premiere of "Hollow Triumph" on Aug. 18.

20th Promotes Birnbaum

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 12.—Leon Birnbaum has been promoted to head the 20th Century-Fox studio music-cutting department, replacing Cliff Ransom, who has resigned. Birnbaum was previously a music cutter at the studio.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
"A DATE WITH JUDY"
Wallace BEERY • Jane PDWELL
Elizabeth TAYLOR • Carmen MIRANDA
Xavier CUGAT • Robert STACK
A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

ALAN DONNA
LADD REED
in **BEYOND GLORY**
A Great Love Story
That Comes
Sliding Through!
PARAMOUNT
TIMES SQUARE
MIDNIGHT FEATURE
NIGHTLY

ROY DEL RUTH'S **"THE BABE RUTH STORY"**
WILLIAM CLARE
Starring **BENDIX-TREVOR**
An Allied Artists Production
CHARLES BICKFORD
ASTOR 8-WAY AT 45TH ST. Cont. Performances • Pop Prices

Paramount Presents
RAY MILLAND
ANN TODD
GERALDINE FITZGERALD
in **"So Evil My Love"**
A HAL WALLIS production
DOORS OPEN 9:30 A. M. 8-WAY & 49th Street
RIVOLI
SCIENTIFICALLY AIR CONDITIONED

Cornel WILDE Linda DARNELL Anne BAXTER Kirk DOUGLAS
"THE WALLS of JERICHO"
A 20th Century-Fox Picture
ON VARIETY STAGE—DICK HAYMES
ON ICE STAGE—CAROL LYNN
ARNOLD SHODA - FRITZ DIETL
ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

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Argosy Pictures Corporation
9336 West Washington Boulevard
Culver City, California

July 15, 1948

John Ford
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
Merian C. Cooper
PRESIDENT

Dr. Herbert Kalmus
Technicolor Motion Picture Corp.
6311 Romaine
Hollywood, California

Dear Dr. Kalmus:

Before I commenced "The Three Godfathers," Cooper and I were informed from all but one source that the additional cost in Technicolor would be from 20% to 50% more than in black and white. I am happy to write you that this information was completely wrong. We have had an accurate breakdown made of each individual item of the picture. The results show the actual additional cost for the employment of Technicolor in "The Three Godfathers" was only about 7½% greater than if the picture had been made in black and white.

I hope our use of color will prove interesting to you. I believe that audiences will not be conscious of it because the effects are so natural; and I also believe that audiences will unconsciously feel a very real dramatic impact from its use.

It is my opinion that Winnie Hoch and Charlie Boyle have turned in a truly great job of camera work. I would appreciate if you would thank them as well as all of your technical staff for the expert job they did on the picture.

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,

John Ford
John Ford

Color by
TECHNICOLOR

WORLD FAVORITE IN MOTION PICTURES

"Technicolor"
is a trade-mark

TECHNICOLOR MOTION PICTURE CORPORATION

HERBERT T. KALMUS, PRESIDENT AND GENERAL MANAGER

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY correspondents. Estimates omit admission tax.

BOSTON

Cool weather over the weekend helped after several weeks of hot weather. Only six night baseball games to be played this month, then theatres will not have any night competition. Estimated receipts for the week ended August 11:

CANON CITY (E-L) and **LADY AT MIDNIGHT (E-L)**—PARAMOUNT (1,700) (40c-80c) 2nd week. Gross: \$12,500. (Average: \$17,000)

CANON CITY (E-L) and **LADY AT MIDNIGHT (E-L)**—FENWAY (1,373) (40c-80c). Gross: \$4,900. (Average: \$10,000)

HUNGRY HILL (U-I) and **SMART WOMAN (AA-Mono.)**—EXETER (1,300) (45c-75c) 4 days. Gross: \$1,800. (Average: \$5,000)

KEY LARGO (WB) and **THE SHANGHAI CHEST (Mono.)**—METROPOLITAN (4,367) (40c-80c). Gross: \$24,000. (Average: \$27,000). Dr. IQ personal appearance one night.

MELODY TIME (RKO Radio) and **MYSTERY IN MEXICO (RKO Radio)** 5 days. **RKO-MEMORIAL (3,000)** (40c-80c). Gross: \$12,500. (Average: \$22,000)

TAKE MY LIFE (E-L) and **THE GREAT WALTZ (M-G-M)**—EXETER (1,300) (45c-75c) 3 days. (Gross: \$1,500. (Average: \$5,000)

THE FULLER BRUSH MAN (Col.) and **ADVENTURES IN SILVERADO (Col.)**—ASTOR (1,300) (44c-80c). Gross: \$3,800. (Average: None available)

THE BABE RUTH STORY (AA-Mono) and **DEVIL'S CARGO (F-C)**—RKO-MEMORIAL (3,000) (40c-80c) 2 days. Gross: \$5,000.

THE TIME OF YOUR LIFE (UA) and **THUNDERHOOF (Col.)**—ORPHEUM (3,000) (40c-80c). Gross: \$22,000. (Average: \$27,000)

THE TIME OF YOUR LIFE (UA) and **THUNDERHOOF (Col.)**—STATE (3,500) (40c-80c). Gross: \$12,500. (Average: \$12,000)

THE STREET WITH NO NAME (20th-Fox) and **FRENCH LEAVE (Mono.)**—RKO BOSTON—(3,200) (40c-80c). Gross: \$9,500. (Average: None on summer schedule)

SIXTEEN FATHOMS DEEP (Mono.)—MODERN (800) (45c-85c). Gross: \$500. 1 day.

MINNEAPOLIS

"Easter Parade" was a strong draw in a week which saw theatre business in a general improvement. Estimated receipts for the week ended August 12:

EASTER PARADE (M-G-M)—RADIO CITY (4,000) (50c-70c). Gross: \$18,500. (Average: \$16,000)

KEY LARGO (WB)—RKO ORPHEUM (2,800) (50c-70c). Gross: \$13,000. (Average: \$12,500)

MR. BLANDINGS BUILDS HIS DREAM HOUSE (SRO)—LYRIC (1,100) (50c-70c) 4th week. Gross: \$5,200. (Average: \$5,000)

RETURN OF THE BAD MEN (RKO Radio)—RKO PAN (1,500) (50c-70c) 5 days, 2nd week. Gross: \$5,000. (Average: for 7 days: \$8,000)

SHAGGY (Para.) and **BILL AND COO (Rep.)**—CENTURY (1,500) (50c-70c) 5 days. Gross: \$4,000. (Average: for 7 days: \$5,500)

TARZAN'S SECRET TREASURE (M-G-M) and **TARZAN'S NEW YORK ADVENTURE (M-G-M-Reissues)**—GOPHER (1,000) (44c-50c) 8 days. Gross: \$4,200. (Average: for 7 days: \$3,200)

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—STATE (2,300) (50c-70c) Gross: \$11,000. (Average: \$10,500)

BALTIMORE

Cooler weather and the arrival of several substantial pictures are helping this week's business. Openings were

Reviews

"Shed No Tears"

(Eagle-Lion)

A HUSBAND and wife team up to defraud an insurance company out of \$50,000 in "Shed No Tears," a routine melodrama based on the novel by Don Martin.

Starring Wallace Ford and June Vincent as the married couple the plot progresses smoothly if not swiftly. Opening with a hotel fire in which an unidentified body is found, the picture relates how the wife identifies the body as her husband while he flees to another city under an assumed name. Waiting for her to join him with the insurance money he becomes suspicious and returns to murder her lover. Blackmail enters the picture as a private detective stumbles on the case. Eventually all suffer for their crimes.

In supporting roles are Robert Scott, the lover; Johnstone White as the unethical detective, Dick Hogan as Wallace Ford's son, and Frank Albertson, the detective investigating the case. Jean Yarbrough directed and Robert Frost produced for Equity Pictures.

Running time, 70 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, August 21.

"Miracle in Harlem"

(Screen Guild)

THIS murder mystery can be credited with better production techniques besides being able to stand comparison with other Negro features from Herald Pictures. The picture was shot in sepia and it employs extensively combination sets making it possible for the story to gravitate from scene to scene with a continuous flow of action. Not to be overlooked is the fact that a couple of musical items have been neatly dovetailed into the yarn without getting into the way of the plot development.

Heading the cast are Sheila Guyse and Hilda Offley as operators of a candy shop. A wealthy business man, Lawrence Criner, and his wayward son, Kenneth Freeman, swindle the women out of their store. Eventually Criner is found murdered and there are numerous suspects. At the end, however, it is revealed that the murder was committed by Criner's secretary, who stands to inherit his business and fortune. In supporting roles are Stepin Fetchit, providing comedy relief, Creighton Thompson as a minister, William Greaves as Miss Guyse's romantic counterpart, and Jack Carter as the blackmailing criminal.

Musical numbers include several Negro spirituals and the songs "I Want to Be Loved," sung by Savannah Churchill, "Patience and Fortitude" and others. Jack Goldberg produced, Jack Kemp directed and Vincent Valentini wrote the original story and screenplay.

Running time, 70 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, August 6.

"Champagne Charlie"

(Bell Pictures)

SET in London in the latter period of the last century, "Champagne Charlie" is a musical into which has been woven a plot concerning, firstly, a feud between competitive music halls, and later their joint effort to keep from being closed by municipal authorities.

Made in England and appearing somewhat dated, the picture at best is only mildly entertaining for it has Tommy Trinder and Stanley Holloway singing one song after another until mid-way in the picture when the plot finally starts to appear. Some of their songs were popular during the period in which the story takes place while others are fairly recent. They include "Come On Algernon," "Hit Him on the Boke," "Strolling in the Park," "The Man on the Flying Trapeze," "Hunting After Dark" and a half dozen on the effects of alcoholic beverages.

Supporting the two singers are Betty Warren, as the owner of one of the music halls; Jean Kent as her daughter in love with a nobleman, and Harry Fowler as a backstage assistant. Michael Balcon produced and Cavalcanti directed. Austin Melford, John Dighton and Angus Macphail wrote the original.

Running time, 72 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, August 6.

better than any recently and weekend crowds gave a box-office boost. "Key Largo" is doing excellent business. Estimated receipts for the week ended August 12:

ABBOTT AND COSTELLO MEET FRANKENSTEIN (U-I)—KEITH'S (2,404) (25c-37c-44c-54c and 56c weekends). Gross: \$10,750. (Average: \$12,000)

BRING 'EM BACK ALIVE (RKO Radio reissue)—HIPPODROME (2,205) (29c-37c-50c-58c) With a stage show. Gross: \$18,500. (Average: \$17,500)

ESCAPE (20th-Fox)—NEW (1,800) (29c-40c-50c-58c). Gross: \$12,000. (Average: \$11,750)

FANNY (Sirtzky International)—LITTLE (328) (29c-37c-56c). Gross: \$3,000. (Average: \$3,000)

KEY LARGO (WB)—STANLEY (3,280) (29c-37c-50c-58c). Gross: \$20,000. (Average: \$14,000)

MR. BLANDINGS BUILDS HIS DREAM HOUSE (SRO)—VALENCIA (1,466) (29c-37c-45c-54c and 56c weekends) 2nd week. Gross: \$5,000. (Average: \$5,000)

THE BABE RUTH STORY (AA-Mono.)—TOWN (1,450) (29c-37c-56c) 2nd week. Gross: \$12,200. (Average: \$11,000)

THE BIG CITY (M-G-M)—MAYFAIR

(1,000) (21c-29c-54c). Gross: \$6,250. (Average: \$5,000)

THE TIME OF YOUR LIFE (UA)—CENTURY (3,000) (29c-37c-45c-54c and 56c weekends). Gross: \$15,500. (Average: \$14,500)

TORONTO

With cooler weather helping the trend, there was a strengthening of patronage at ace houses, top attraction of the week being "Easter Parade." There were holdovers at three theatres. Estimated receipts for the week ended August 12:

ABBOTT AND COSTELLO MEET FRANKENSTEIN (U-I)—UPTOWN (2,761) (20c-36c-50c-66c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: \$9,100. (Average: \$10,600)

BERLIN EXPRESS (RKO Radio)—SHEA'S (2,480) (20c-36c-50c-66c-90c) 6 days. Gross: \$15,700. (Average: \$14,700)

DEEP WATERS (20th-Fox)—NORTOWN (950) (20c-42c-60c) 6 days. Gross \$4,500. (Average: \$5,000)

Production Remains Unchanged on Coast

HOLLYWOOD, August 12.—The production tally, standing at 34, remained unchanged from last week. Eight new films were started, while an equal number were sent to the cutters.

Shooting started on "Knock on Any Door" and "Jungle Jim," Columbia; "A Date with Murder" (Falcon), Film Classics; "Incident," Monogram; "One Woman," Paramount; "F of the Yukon," Republic; "Frontier Phantom" (Western Adventure), Screen Guild; "Somewhere in the City," Warner.

Shooting finished on "Law of the Barbary Coast" and "The Lovers," Columbia; "The Rangers Ride," Monogram; "Outlaw Country," Screen Guild; "Adventures of the Cisco Kid" (Krasne), United Artists; "Family Honeymoon," Universal-International; "June Bride" and "Fighter Squadron," Warner.

Contemplate Eight Actions on Drive-ins

LOS ANGELES, August 12.—President C. A. Caballero of Pacific Drive-in Theatres, Inc., has announced his intention to file suits against eight exhibitor interests operating on building drive-ins within the territory licensed to Pacific under Hollingshead patent No. 1,909,537.

Alleged infringers are described as operating under Josseland improvement patent, which is called an infringement of the Hollingshead patent. Area claimed by Pacific embraces most of Southern California.

DEEP WATERS (20th-Fox)—VICTORIA (1,240) (20c-36c-42c-60c) 6 days. Gross: \$5,300. (Average: \$5,800)

EASTER PARADE (M-G-M)—LOEW'S (2,074) (20c-36c-50c-66c-78c) 6 days. Gross: \$16,700. (Average: \$14,200)

KEY LARGO (WB)—IMPERIAL (3,343) (20c-35c-50c-66c-90c) 6 days. Gross: \$15,600. (Average: \$14,600)

THE STREET WITH NO NAME (20th-Fox)—EGLINTON (1,086) (20c-36c-50c-66c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: \$5,900. (Average: \$6,900)

THE STREET WITH NO NAME (20th-Fox)—TIVOLI (1,434) (20c-36c-50c-66c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: \$6,700. (Average: \$8,200)

THE WHITE UNICORN (E-L)—DAN-FORTH (1,400) (20c-36c-50c-60c) 6 days. Gross: \$6,200. (Average: \$6,500)

THE WHITE UNICORN (E-L)—FAIR-LAWN (1,195) (20c-36c-50c-55c) 6 days. Gross: \$5,300. (Average: \$5,500)

CINCINNATI

Current box-office figures, while not sensational, are somewhat over the preceding week on practically all fronts. Cooler weather is helping to some extent. Estimated receipts for the week ended August 10:

BLACK ARROW (Col.)—RKO SHUBERT (2,150) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 2nd week, on a moveover from the Albee. Gross: \$4,500. (Average: \$5,000)

CANON CITY (E-L)—RKO PALACE (2,700) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: \$15,500. (Average: \$15,000)

DEEP WATERS (20th-Fox)—RKO GRAND (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: \$11,000. (Average: \$5,000)

EASTER PARADE (M-G-M)—RKO CAPITOL (2,000) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 3rd week. Gross: \$11,000. (Average: \$10,000)

MAN-EATER OF KUMAON (U-I)—KEITH'S (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-65c-75c). Gross: \$7,500. (Average: \$7,500)

MELODY TIME (RKO Radio)—RKO LYRIC (1,400) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 3rd week, following an initial week at the Albee and a first moveover week at the Shubert. Gross: \$5,500. (Average: \$5,000)

RETURN OF THE BAD MEN (RKO Radio)—RKO ALBEE (3,300) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: \$16,000. (Average: \$15,000)

Review

"Julia Misbehaves"

(M-G-M)

THOSE who remember Greer Garson as Mrs. Miniver, Madame Curie and Mrs. Parkington in attractions of those titles are heading for a pleasant and agreeable surprise when they meet Miss G. as Julia Packett in "Julia Misbehaves." It is a complete switch from the heroic and the tragic to the gay and the hoydenish. On Greer, it's decidedly becoming.

Based on Margery Sharp's novel, "The Nutmeg Tree," her current vehicle is strictly story-book material. It may not always be entirely believable, but it's a lot of fun and duck soup for any audience. This time, circumstances compel Miss Garson to rely almost entirely on her wits. She's from show business and long separated from high-toned Walter Pidgeon who never fell out of love with her but only thought so at the behest of his mother, the socially-conscious Lucille Watson. When the lovely and fresh Elizabeth Taylor, however, is about to be married, Miss Garson decides to journey from London to the South of France in order to see her daughter.

Miss Watson seeks to block this and other matters, but fails on practically all counts. Chief among them is the realization on the part of Miss Taylor of what Miss Garson means to her. This is established in a touching and dramatic sequence which brings mother and daughter together. Pidgeon finds his original attraction for Miss Garson is undiminished despite their years apart and in the face of her slightly risqué escapades involving what Cesar Romero thinks is a love match and what Nigel Bruce believes a gentleman is entitled to for aiding a lady in financial distress. The fact is Miss Garson, who is rarely off the screen, is pretty busy in all kinds of directions; not the least is a motherly conspiracy which finds Miss Taylor walking out on her engagement for an elopement with Peter Lawford. The directions are varied enough to include an acrobatic act in which the new-style Miss Garson wears tights and sings.

While this is Miss Garson's show—and her first with Pidgeon since "Mrs. Parkington," almost four years ago—performances of the other principals are highly competent, as might be expected from such experienced performers. Their support, including reliables like Mary Boland, Reginald Owen, Henry Stephenson, Fritz Feld and Veda Ann Borg, renders a valuable assist.

Everett Riskin produced with that old and sure hand, Jack Conway, directing. The lively screenplay is credited to William Ludwig, Harry Ruskin and Arthur Wimperis working off an adaptation of the original novel by Gina Kaus and Monckton Hoffe.

Running time, a happy 99 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Oct. 8.

RED KANN

Jackpot Game

(Continued from page 1)

game to trade press representatives at a luncheon here yesterday, claims that all elements of chance have been eliminated from the game. Preliminary opinions obtained by the sponsors from the Post Office Department, the Department of Justice, Federal Trade Commission and Federal Communications Commission indicate that it will pass all tests of a game of skill, Mitchell said.

Held To Comply With Law

In addition, counsel for the sponsors of the game have certified that it complies with all state laws on public contests.

Contestants obtain a puzzle picture from participating theatres and tell in 25 words or less why they like motion pictures. Their entries are filed with the theatre and on the specified weekly prize night the best entries are announced and the winners participate in an elimination contest at the theatre, consisting of supplying the answers, also on motion picture subjects, to questions put to them on the stage of the theatre.

Contestants are not required to pay an admission to obtain an entry puzzle and winners are not required to be in the theatre when the initial entries are judged. Such contestants have their names announced outside as well as inside the theatre and are admitted free within three minutes of the announcement to participate.

National Jackpot of \$5,000

Winner of individual theatres' puzzle question receives a prize of at least \$25 to be posted by the theatre and qualifies to try for a national jackpot question worth a minimum of \$5,000 in

prizes, the national jackpot to be provided by the game's sponsor, Enterprise House. The national jackpot question is asked, and answers are given, over a telephone hook-up with Enterprise's New York headquarters and the participating theatre's stage. As soon as a jackpot is won, Enterprise posts another so that a national prize always is on hand. If a jackpot is not won by the weekly deadline, additional prizes are added to it.

Cost to theatres is on a basis of four cents per seat. A trailer is provided at a rental of \$1 weekly and press books, contest materials and other essentials are provided without charge.

Initial tryout of the game will be held in New England in the near future, Mitchell said. The game's sponsors view it as the theatres' answer to radio giveaway competition, as well as a box-office stimulant.

US Increases Films

(Continued from page 1)

the program, was badly crippled by budget cuts during the past 18 months. But the last Congress raised the appropriation for the entire program for the current fiscal year from \$10,500,000 to \$28,000,000. The film section, which was cut last year from \$2,700,000 to \$339,000, will have about \$2,000,000 to spend.

As a result, it will triple its staff—the section had about 87 people on Jan. 1, 1947, gradually trimmed this to 22, and now it hopes to employ about 70 persons. Also, it will acquire 100 new reels to show abroad. Prints of each will be made in 14 languages. At least half will be acquired from private firms; as few as possible will be produced by the Department. During 1946-1947, the division acquired about 130 new reels, but last year it got none.

O'Brien Asks

(Continued from page 1)

next. O'Brien will attend the IATSE's international convention which will start in Cleveland on Monday.

"I think the time has come when the American and British industries should get together and cooperate more closely and form a permanent joint council for the purpose of dealing with problems of mutual interest," O'Brien declared. "Unless they do that," he continued, "the British government, and sooner or later the U. S. government, will show an increasing interest and control over affairs within the industry." This, he asserted, "in many respects would be undesirable."

O'Brien labeled the boycotting of British films here by Sons of Liberty and other groups as "crass stupidity" that could lead to serious consequences. He appealed to the boycotters "not to take it out on the industry" but to express their grievances with British policy through proper political channels.

He observed that the U. S. industry could be "paralyzed" if groups in England instituted boycotts. He said that our need for the British market is far greater than the British industry's need for the United States market.

Full Remittances

(Continued from page 1)

Saenz, the company's Cuban manager, said that U. S. distributors stand to take \$2,000,000 out of his territory this year. He asserted that this is the second biggest year for the U. S. industry in Cuba, 1947 being tops. Saenz said that although grosses generally are lower in Cuba this year than last, RKO's are larger.

Since there are still no restrictions on theatre building in Cuba, many new houses have been erected there, Saenz reported, seven having been built in Havana alone in the past two years. Other theatres throughout Cuba are undergoing modernization, he said.

Blum-Byrnes Accord

(Continued from page 1)

Department nor industry officials would discuss any details of its contents.

Date of the meeting may be set tomorrow when Motion Picture Export Association president Eric Johnston is due back at his desk here after a month on the Coast. In addition to action on the French and British markets, the MPEA session will probably give instructions to Johnston on his anticipated trip to Paris and London.

When the phone r-i-n-g-s....

"SORRY, WRONG NUMBER"

Your excited customers will be asking: "When will you be playing the picture that Hollywood Reporter says 'holds the spectator spell-bound for its dynamic 89 minutes'?"

Produced by Hal Wallis for Paramount

Even though today is **FRIDAY** the 13th....

YOU CAN WALK UNDER THESE....



BREAK A DOZEN OF THESE....



MAKE A PET OF A....



IF YOU'VE GOT....



THE LUCK OF THE IRISH

TYRONE POWER • ANNE BAXTER in "THE LUCK OF THE IRISH"
with CECIL KELLAWAY • LEE J. COBB • James Todd • Jayne Meadows
J. M. Kerrigan • Phil Brown • Charles Irwin • Directed by HENRY
KOSTER • Produced by FRED KOHLMAR • Screen Play by Philip Dunne
Based on a Novel by Guy and Constance Jones

...BOOKED!!!!



Happy-Go-Lucky Horace says, "Happy showmen today are playing these lucky-at-the-boxoffice 20th Century-Fox hits":

"THE WALLS OF JERICHO" • "THAT LADY IN ERMINE"

TECHNICOLOR

"THE STREET WITH NO NAME" • "GIVE MY REGARDS TO BROADWAY"

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NEW YORK, N. Y.

NO. 32

NEW YORK, U. S. A., MONDAY, AUGUST 16, 1948

TEN CENTS

Studio Unions Campaign to Boost Grosses

Appeal to AFL Crafts To Patronize Theatres

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 15. — In the first national undertaking by organized labor to stimulate motion picture box-offices, on which it depends for a livelihood, the Hollywood American Federation of Labor Film Council, comprising 22 studio unions and guilds, tomorrow will mail letters to 5,000 AFL organizations in the U. S. urging increased theatre attendance.

Letter reads, in part, "We, AFL unions and guilds representing 26,000 Hollywood studio workers, want you to know every picture made in Hollywood is produced under AFL union shop conditions and contracts. And when you have a few quarters to spend for entertainment, we hope you

(Continued on page 6)

Studio Group Due For AFM Confabs

Studio representatives were on their way at the weekend to New York to take part in negotiations with the American Federation of Musicians on a new contract for musicians employed in film production. Conferences will get under way on Wednesday.

The group includes Charles Boren, vice-president of the Association of Motion Picture Producers in charge of industrial relations; Al Chamie, his assistant; Robert Newman, Republic; Fred S. Meyer, of 20th-Fox; A. H. McCausland, Universal; Richard J. Powers, M-G-M; Lou Lipstone, Paramount.

Y. Frank Freeman, Paramount vice-president and chairman of the AMPP board, another studio spokesman at the negotiations, arrived in New York last week.

Technicolor Cuts Delivery Time 33 1/3%

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 15.—Technicolor reports it has reduced the interval between the completion of shooting of a picture and the start of delivery of release prints from an average of about nine and a half months as of a year ago to six and a half months at present, with the time expected to be

(Continued on page 6)

SRO Sales Set-up Will Not be Changed, Selznick Indicates

Executive sales structure of Selznick Releasing Organization will continue to operate as heretofore, following the resignation of Neil Agnew as president, David O. Selznick reported in a statement released by the New York office at the weekend. SRO general sales manager Milton Kramer, Selznick said, "has been gradually assuming many of the executive functions of Mr. Agnew." Thus, no changes are in prospect, he said in effect.

Selznick stressed that he and Agnew parted on a completely amicable basis, adding that Agnew's retirement was long anticipated. He said he has no immediate plans to name a new SRO president.

Cohen Heads W. B. International Unit

Wolfe Cohen has been named president of Warner Brothers International Corp., succeeding the late Max Milder, who died in London two weeks ago. Until now Cohen has been vice-president of Warner International.

Cohen has been in the industry since 1918, starting in Toronto. On the opening of Warner offices in Canada nationally, he took charge of the St. John branch in 1925. Later he was transferred to Winnipeg as branch manager, with supervision over the Calgary branch. In 1936 Cohen became Canadian district manager. He was appointed vice-president of WB's Vitaphone in 1941. In 1944 he was made vice-president of Warner International.

US Canadian Agreement Aiding Dominion Trade

TORONTO, Aug. 15.—The "gentlemen's agreement" between the American film industry and Canada under which Hollywood producers agreed to give the Dominion considerable promotional attention in both features and shorts is attributed in large measure to American tourist trade increasing as much as 25 per cent in this U. S. sister country to the North.

The agreement was arrived at as a means of precluding restrictions on Hollywood films in order to conserve American dollars, and is cited by officials here as "a valuable lesson" for

N. J. Allied to Call On Smith This Week

A committee representing Allied of New Jersey is scheduled to call on A. W. Smith, Jr., 20th-Fox's distribution head, this week for conferences on the Berger-North Central Allied-20th-Fox conciliation plan looking to its possible adoption by the Jersey exhibitor group. Committeemen will include Irving Dollinger, as chairman, Wilbur Snaper and Lou Gold.

The trio was instructed to meet with Smith at a Jersey Allied meeting here on Monday.

Only One Application For ECA Guarantee

WASHINGTON, Aug. 15.—The motion picture industry is not deluging the Economic Cooperation Administration with applications for Government guarantees of converting costs of distributing films in Marshall Plan nations. In fact, only one application has been received to date, from the Motion Picture Export Association, to cover distribution activities in Germany alone.

ECA officials say they have had many conversations with MPEA officials, but none with representatives of individual film firms. They express surprise that the number of inquiries from the film industry has been so much less than from book, magazine and newspaper publishers.

Meanwhile, ECA funds were earmarked for the first time for film equipment with the listing of an authorization of \$10,000 to buy projectors and equipment for Greece.

Report French Offer to Free \$9,000,000

Proposal Goes to MPEA Board Session This Week

Directorate of the Motion Picture Export Association will convene here within the next day or two to consider a French government-proposed film agreement which would allow the conversion and remittance to the U. S. of \$9,000,000 in frozen funds owned by American companies, over a four-year period.

This provision of the proposed agreement has been the principal factor in the negotiations begun in France about a month ago.

At the weekend the companies here were in receipt of full details of the French proposal, cabled by Paris branch offices. Copies also were sent to the U. S. State Department in Washington and to Washington headquarters of the Motion Picture Association of America.

Earnings both here and abroad of

(Continued on page 3)

IATSE Convention In Cleveland Today

CLEVELAND, Aug. 15.—The 29th biennial convention of the IATSE will open at the Cleveland Public Auditorium tomorrow morning with scheduled speakers for the first day including William Green, AFL president; Gov. Thomas J. Herbert and Mayor Thomas H. Burke of Cleveland.

The gathering of 1,100 delegates will be called to order by John B. Fitzgerald, president, Local No. 27, Cleveland. Temporary chairman will be International first vice-president Harland Holmden. Among those welcoming the delegates is Ernest Schwartz, presi-

(Continued on page 6)

Bar Para. Move on 'Frisco Video Bids

WASHINGTON, Aug. 15.—The Federal Communications Commission on Friday blocked a move by Paramount to increase its chances for getting a San Francisco television station.

The Commission turned down motions by Paramount subsidiary Television Productions, Inc., and Ed Paul-ey's Television California to throw

(Continued on page 3)

Personal Mention

CECIL B. DEMILLE and **Mrs. DEMILLE** are observing their 46th wedding anniversary today. DEMILLE also observed his 67th birthday last Thursday.

HARRY SIMONS, assistant manager of the RKO Palace in Columbus, O., has been promoted to manager of the RKO Grand, succeeding **LARRY CAPLANE**, who has been promoted to manager of the RKO Brandeis in Omaha. **HERMAN STOFLE**, Grand assistant manager, is the new assistant manager at the Palace.

WILLIAM T. POWELL, former manager, division publicity director and district manager for Public Theatres, Hartford, has taken over operation of the Kameo in Pittsfield, Mass.

NORMAN H. MORAY, president of Warner Pathe News and short subjects sales manager, will return to New York today from Albany and Gloversville, N. Y.

WALTER I. LASKER, president of Lasker-Schwartz, Inc., will leave New York today on a week's business trip to the Columbus, O., area.

IRVING HELFON, home office assistant to M-G-M Midwest sales manager **BURTUS BISHOP, JR.**, left here yesterday for Chicago.

ANDREW FREEMAN, former manager of the Rockland Theatre, Philadelphia, has been named district manager for the A. M. Ellis circuit.

J. C. SHANKLIN, president of Motion Picture Theatre Owners of West Virginia, is confined to his home as a result of a leg injury.

FRANK H. DURKEE, head of Durkee Enterprises, Baltimore, and Maryland circuit, is confined to his home by a broken collar bone.

WILLIAM McCaULEY is replacing **HARRY THOMPSON** as manager of the Rialto in Wyandotte, Mich., during the latter's illness.

WALTER GOULD, United Artists foreign manager, left here at the weekend for a Coast vacation.

JERRY HOFFMAN, Independent Artists publicity director, has returned to the Coast from New York.

B. G. KRANZE, Film Classics vice-president and general sales chief, is in Philadelphia from New York.

HY FINE, Connecticut district manager for M. and P. Theatres, has returned from a vacation in Canada.

ERNE GRECU, assistant to Hartford Theatres Circuit general manager **AL SCHUMAN**, is on vacation.

CHAUNCEY WOLF, part owner of the Uptown Theatre, Baltimore, is vacationing at Atlantic City.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

A FIRST inkling of what a music performing rights could cost under the method of clearing such rights prescribed by Federal Judge Vincent Leibel in the ITOA of New York suit against Ascaph is provided by the deal with copyright owners made recently by Columbia Pictures.

Jonie Taps, Columbia studio music executive, in clearing the recording rights to music to be used in the film sequel to "The Jolson Story," made provisional arrangements at the same time for obtaining the performing rights in the event Judge Leibel's decision against Ascaph is sustained on appeal.

It is estimated that the performing rights for the music to be used in the new Jolson picture would cost Columbia approximately \$90,000. A Jolson picture will have lots of music in it, and valuable music. Pictures no doubt will be made which will carry a greater cost for music performing rights than will the Jolson picture but, the over-all average will be much less.

Harry Fox of Music Publishers Protective Association, who clears the recording rights to music with producers, estimates that performing rights will cost producers about as much as recording rights.

In the trial of the ITOA vs. Ascaph suit, testimony showed that recording rights cost producers anywhere from a few hundred dollars per composition up to \$25,000. It was also shown that virtually every picture made uses some Ascaph music, varying in number from one or a very few compositions to 15 or more.

On the other hand, some music publishers, themselves copyright owners, estimate the cost of performing rights, sold directly to producers, at anywhere from one-third to 100 per cent of the cost of recording rights.

Supposing the average film's music performing rights' cost is one-third that of the Jolson picture (bearing in mind that some high budget musicals could run as high as \$200,000 for such rights). For 350 new pictures per year at \$30,000, the cost of performing rights would be \$10,500,000, or approximately 10 times what exhibitors paid Ascaph for the rights last year.

Who will pay those millions of dollars in performing rights

costs, whether more or less than the rough estimate above?

One answer may be found in a brief filed during the House committee hearing on the Lewis Bill last March by **Adolph Schimel**, secretary and attorney of Universal Pictures.

(The Lewis Bill, it will be remembered, would have required producers to obtain the performing rights to music contained in their films.)

Said the Universal brief: "Clearly, if the producer of a motion picture is required to negotiate for a license to perform the music contained therein, the producer is warranted in requiring the exhibitor in whose theatre the picture is shown to pay his proper share of the aggregate amount paid by the producer to the owner of the performing rights of the music contained in the picture. This the producer would have to do."

And again, in the same brief: "There is no warrant for the assumption that the producer of motion pictures could absorb the costs of procuring performing rights. There is every reason to believe that these costs would have to be allocated and ultimately paid for by the exhibitor of the motion pictures."

Further: "Its effect (the Lewis Bill) would be to shift the responsibility for negotiation and collection from the exhibitor to the producer, but ultimately the exhibitor can and will be asked to pay these charges. If the producer is compelled to do the negotiating and do the collecting, we are convinced that the ultimate costs for such performing rights will be much higher than they are today, and if these costs are passed on to the ultimate consumer, namely: the patron at the box office, the ultimate consumer will suffer."

In the memorandum on the Lewis Bill submitted by the Motion Picture Association of America last March, there appears the following:

"If performing rights must be acquired by producers and/or distributors, those rights will become much more costly. This cost will have to be passed along to the exhibitor and, in the final analysis, to the ultimate consumer, namely, the public."

The memorandum was signed by all major producers and numerous independents.

Newsreel Parade

THE Red espionage inquiry and the Olympic games mark current newsreel highlights. Other sports and human interest topics round out the reels. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 65—U. S. Government officials deny Red espionage charges. Violence marks flight of Soviet teachers in New York. Sports: Olympics, trotting, golf, racing.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 29—Insurrection in Red drama. Olympic story.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 102—Strange case of the Soviet teachers. Films of Olympics.

UNIVERSAL NEWS, No. 169—One hundred years of friendship between U. S. and Canada. Swiss scouts commemorate Independence Day. Orphans on outing. Hoover birthplace. Mermaid exhibition for "Mr. Peabody and the Mermaid" opening. Olympics.

WARNER PATHE NEWS, No. 104—Red inquiry. Hambletonian. Olympics. Great Events: Tokyo Bay.

Eastern Allied Hits 'Easter' Percentages

Spokesman for the Eastern regional directors of national Allied reports that that group, at its recent meeting here, "strongly condemned" M-G-M's sales policy on "Easter Parade." Representatives of the Baltimore, Connecticut, Eastern Pennsylvania, Massachusetts and New Jersey Allied units, who attended the meeting, argue that "Leo has decided to grab more than the lion's share on this production by taking it out of regular release in many instances for special deals" which call for increased percentages.

Members of the units involved will be urged to demand that "Easter Parade" be sold on regular terms.

An M-G-M sales executive said that **William F. Rodgers**, company distribution head, was the only one who could make a statement on the complaint of Allied's Eastern directors. Rodgers could not be reached for comment on Friday.

Nicholson in Army Film Post in N. Y.

Gordon McFarland, connected with Army motion picture activities since 1940, resigned as New York representative of the Army and Air Force Motion Picture Service on Friday after two years in that post, it was announced at the weekend by **Fred Bund**, chief of that unit. **John J. Nicholson**, chief of the overseas branch and at one time connected with Warner Theatres, has absorbed McFarland's duties.

McFarland will engage in real estate in Arlington, Va.

J. P. Uvick Dissolves Anti-Ascaph Group

DETROIT, Aug. 15.—**Joseph P. Uvick** is dissolving the Michigan Ascaph committee which he headed. He is returning \$4,000 of the \$6,000 collected from the 153 individual exhibitors who formed it. He reported that the committee which was among those taking national leadership in the fight against Ascaph fees, has served its purposes.

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Eagle-Lion Sets 14 Releases to Nov. 1

Eagle-Lion will release 14 films between now and Nov. 1, it was announced at the weekend by William J. Heineman, distribution vice-president.

Listed for August are "The Spiritualist," "Lady at Midnight," and two re-issues, "Hold That Ghost" and "Hired Wife." September releases include "Northwest Stampede," Cinecolor, "In This Corner" and "The Olympic Games of 1948" in Technicolor, and two Edward Small reissues, "My Son, My Son" and "International Lady." Listed for October are "Hollow Triumph," "Behind Locked Doors" and "Adventures of Gallant Bess," in Cinecolor, plus two other Small reissues, "The Count of Monte Cristo" and "The Son of Monte Cristo."

New Production Unit Is Formed by Martin

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 15.—Charles Martin, formed Charles Martin Productions, with Paul Zieffren, Nathan Wallach and John McDermott. The company, it is reported, will lead off with five comedies, budgeted at \$1,000,000 each. Distribution arrangements have not been set.

1st under Hughes Regime

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 15.—First RKO Radio film to get under way since Howard Hughes acquired control of the company will start on Wednesday. It is "Follow Me Quietly," with Herman Schlom as producer, Richard O. Fleischer as director and William Lundigan in the male lead.

1st Westchester Drive-In

Westchester County will get its first drive-in theatre Wednesday when the Starlight Drive-in on Route No. 9, Croton-on-Hudson, will open. Jerome Britchey will operate the theatre which can accommodate 500 autos.

To Handle Young America

Loew's International has arranged for worldwide distribution outside of U. S. and Canada of pictures produced by Young America Films for its library of classroom and auditorium films.

Video Film Council Expands Committees

Jose di Dinato, television station representative for Edward Petry Co., has been named to the television committee of the National Television Film Council. Additions to the production committee are Jay A. Maurer, president of J. A. Maurer and vice-president of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers, and Bertrand Keane and Brian Calhoun, both of Keaneleigh and Calhoun.

A membership drive committee is being selected by Robt. W. Wormhoudt, secretary-treasurer of the council.

BBC Will Televis European Product

LONDON, Aug. 15.—In the face of a blunt refusal by distributors and the film trade in general to help British Broadcasting through its present experimental phase in television by loaning of films, particularly newsreels, BBC has concluded a deal with Sir Alexander Korda's Paris affiliates for permission to televise a select batch of Continental pictures for which they hold British distribution rights.

Bar Para. Move

(Continued from page 1)

Don Lee Broadcasting's application for a San Francisco video spot into the general San Francisco hearings which concluded some weeks ago. Paramount, 20th Century-Fox, Pauley, Columbia Broadcasting and Station KROW were fighting in those hearings for two San Francisco vacancies.

Several months ago FCC ordered separate proceedings on the Don Lee application, indicating the company would get a channel. The move by Pauley and Paramount would have placed the Don Lee bid on the same par as the others, thereby making three video spots available among the six applicants.

Meanwhile, KROW filed a statement with the FCC urging that 20th-Fox be denied a chance to amend its San Francisco application to include plans for an auxiliary station in Oakland. Pauley and CBS already are on record against the 20th-Fox petition, leaving only Paramount as unopposed now.

Edwin Maxwell, 58, Associate of DeMille

HYANNIS, Mass., Aug. 15.—Edwin Maxwell, 58, associate of Cecil B. DeMille for the past 10 years, died here Friday at Cape Cod Hospital.

Born in Dublin, Maxwell came to the U. S. 52 years ago. He played his first stage role at the age of seven. After a career on Broadway he went to Hollywood where one of his best known successes was as director and for a character role in "The Jazz Singer." He also appeared in such films as "All Quiet on the Western Front," "Mr. Deeds Goes to Town," "You Can't Take It With You" and "President Wilson."

Ask 'Paradise' Boycott

TORONTO, Aug. 15.—Archbishop Alexandre Vachon has requested Communicants to refrain from attending performances of "Children of Paradise" which was made in France and is being shown with English subtitles in Ontario.

The picture has been banned in Quebec but was approved as adult entertainment by Ontario censors.

French Proposal

(Continued from page 1)

U.S. companies having hit a new low since the war, one top film executive said here at the weekend, "We are anxious to get the money into the till and so probably will accept." He said he was speaking only for his own company.

The French reportedly made further concessions in the matter of superimposing French titles on prints, offering to permit twice the number previously allowed.

Would Bar Theatre Acquisition

American-owned francs not remittable could be used for certain types of investments in France, in real estate, film production and other projects, and, additionally for print duplicates, it was said. Acquisition of theatres in France with blocked funds will not be allowed.

It is indicated that French exhibitors will be required to reserve five weeks out of each 13 for French product.

It is understood that the Franco-American agreement would probably become effective within 30 days of its ratification. Actual remittances, however, could not begin until much later.

Seek to Limit Convertibility

The "peace" terms as offered by the French are said to place a ceiling on the amount of earnings convertible in the future. These remittable profits would be in addition to the \$9,000,000 which will be freed if an agreement is reached.

While it is considered highly likely that MPEA president Eric A. Johnston will leave shortly for Paris, and probably London, at the behest of the MPEA, this continues as a matter to be determined definitely at the meeting this week.

Foreign department company heads met here on Friday at the MPAA offices presumably to study the French proposal in advance of this week's session. South American markets also came up for discussion.

British Equity Asks Voice in Film Posts

LONDON, Aug. 15.—British Equity has strongly protested the exclusion of actors from governmental motion picture groups. The actors' trades-union decried the fact that actors are denied representation on the British Film Production Council, headed by Harold Wilson.

Equity also proposed much closer control of the "importation of Hollywood artists."

Johnston, ECA Head Hoffman Hold Parley

WASHINGTON, Aug. 15.—Motion Picture Association of America president Eric Johnston, who is a member of the Economic Cooperation Administration advisory board, lunched on Friday with ECA Administrator Paul Hoffman, but aides of both officials refused to say whether films, general ECA business or purely personal matters were on the menu.

New Manila Film Here

Nathan Cy Braunstein, New York, has been engaged by the Reconstruction Trading Corp. to edit "Fort Santiago," first post-war Philippine production to be released in the U.S. The film was produced by Louis F. Nolasco.

India Centralizing Film Censorship

WASHINGTON, Aug. 15.—The Bombay government will set up a single film censorship board for all of India, to replace the present three separate boards in Bombay, Calcutta, and Madras, the U. S. Commerce Department declares.

A report prepared by film chief Nathan D. Golden states that the appointment of a central board is considered necessary in view of the diverse standards adopted by the three boards.

Some 13 foreign films, "most of which were of U. S. origin" were banned in Bombay last year, Golden reports. Another 86 had scenes deleted, mostly drinking scenes from U. S. features. "Perhaps for the first time" a kissing scene was asked to be cut from a U. S. feature, Golden says.

The report says the Bombay Chronicle "highly commended" the Motion Picture Association of America for restricting crime and gangster pictures.

Henreid Intends to Make Two in Canada

Paul Henreid said here at the weekend that he intends to star in and co-produce two features next year at the Canada International Studios, Montreal, to which he is committed, and beyond that he has no contracts. Henreid said he is now negotiating distribution of the two with 20th Century-Fox.

He said he believes that Class "A" production can be made on a budget of \$600,000, but, he added, "End to Violence," which he is now making on the Coast will cost more than that. Henreid produced "Hollow Triumph" which Eagle-Lion is now releasing.

British Seek Spanish Films for England

WASHINGTON, Aug. 15.—British film officials have been visiting Madrid to get Spanish films for the U. K. market, while French film representatives have been there to work out joint Franco-Spanish film production, according to a Commerce Department report by film chief Nathan D. Golden.

U. S. films accounted for about 77 per cent of all gross receipts in Spain during May—slightly less than earlier in the year.

Building in Canada Declines Sharply

OTTAWA, Aug. 15.—Construction contracts for theatres in Canada have declined steadily since April, with the total of such contracts for the first half of 1948 running far behind a similar period last year. Contracts for theatres in June were valued at \$200,000, as compared with \$430,000 in May, and \$340,000 in April.

The decline is attributed to the high costs of building and the shortages of materials and skilled labor.

Canadian Exports Reach \$2,100,000

OTTAWA, Aug. 15.—Exports of all films from Canada increased to \$386,000 in June, compared with \$300,000 in June a year ago and reached a total of \$2,100,000 in the first six months of 1948, against \$1,639,000 in the corresponding 1947 period.



Gambler RAFT

Detective BENDIX

—and a
born
troop

RKO
Presents

GEORGE RAFT
WILLIAM BENDIX
MARILYN MAXWELL

in

RACE STREET

DORE SCHARF

In Charge of Production

Produced by NAT HOLT • Directed by EDWIN L. MARLON

Screen Play by MARTIN RACKOFF



BROADWAY ENGAGEMENT AT BRANDT'S MAYFAIR

lame
or
le!

X
ELL

ET



R THEATRE!

Bookie King tagged for
rubout! . . . Homicide Ace
on the murder spot! . . .
Dark-Haired Dish the decoy in
"buy or die" ultimatum by
"protection" racketeers! —
Rough, rugged action to
make your blood run
hot — and cold!



Review

"Sofia"

(Film Classics)

FILM CLASSICS makes a fairly impressive show of strength with respect to production scope in "Sofia." Had it made itself clearer on some points of the narrative, this relatively expensive Cinecolor expedition into the big-time undoubtedly would have resulted in something to talk about even louder.

It is a melodrama about international opportunists in the Balkans that is deprived of maximum effect by an insistence on covering too much geography and focusing on too many characters with too many diversified motives.

Gene Raymond, Sigrid Gurie and others on view perform with adequate efficiency against a backdrop of elaborate sets in Turkey, Bulgaria, Athens, and an OSS jumping-off base not identified. The coloring job is commendable beyond question, likewise the ambitiousness of the entire production.

Miss Gurie is a brilliant scientist loaded with information about the atom bomb and consequently held captive by shady characters "behind the iron curtain." Raymond is the American who comes to her rescue. Patricia Morison, Mischa Auer, John Wengraf and George Baxter are in support. John Reinhardt directed from an original by Frederick Stephanie. Reinhardt and Robert R. Presnell, Sr., produced.

Running time, 83 minutes. General audience classification. For September release.

GENE ARNEEL

Studios Sign 5-Year Pact with 5 Locals

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 15.—Negotiations for a five-year contract covering studio workers in the teamsters, plasterers, janitors, electricians and laborers locals were completed, on Friday by the major studios. The pact allows for reopening in 1949 and 1951 for readjustment if intervening developments warrant it.

Studio Unions

(Continued from page 1)

will spend some of them where they will help provide work for AFL craftsmen; that is, spend them to see fine American pictures. . . .

Letter continues, "The great decline in income earned by American movies in foreign countries has caused a decrease in the production of American pictures. This has reduced drastically the employment of AFL workmen in Hollywood studios. While there are a few pictures which may be below average, there are many excellent ones which are top entertainment for the entire family. We ask you to remember that every dime paid into the box-office to see an American picture helps employ a brother member of the AFL. And, just as important, 65 per cent of the money taken in at the box-office in your town remains in your town and helps employ other AFL craftsmen, for theatres themselves employ AFL workmen under AFL union shop conditions."

IATSE Convention

(Continued from page 1)

dent of the Cleveland Motion Picture Exhibitors Association. "IA" president Richard F. Walsh will preside.

Walsh's report is scheduled for Tuesday, along with reports of secretary-treasurer William P. Raoul and the board of trustees.

Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association of America, is scheduled to be a guest speaker Wednesday. Committee reports will continue on Thursday. The schedule for that day also includes an address by Tom O'Brien, MP, secretary of the British National Association of Theatrical and Kine Employees. Nomination of officers will conclude the day's business, with the election and installation to take place on Friday. There is no known opposition to Walsh for reelection.

Mortician Sues RKO

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 15.—Luzerne County funeral director has entered a \$500,000 suit against RKO Radio in which he charges that "Miracle of the Bells" exposed him to "public scorn, ridicule and shame." The mortician, Raymond Polniaszek of Glen Lyon, Pa., claims the film portrayed him as a "hateful money-grabbing" undertaker and adds that the character of "Nick Orloff" was meant to be a portrayal of him.

Columbus Warns on Tax

COLUMBUS, O., Aug. 15.—The State Tax Commissioner C. Emory Glander advised theatremen and other businesses to keep records of sales under 41 cents for the purpose of tax assessments, despite the fact that the state sales tax on items under 41 cents has been lifted. He said that the "burden of proof" on what sales are tax exempt would be upon the merchant. Candy, popcorn, soft drinks and other items are included.

Rocky Mt. Golf Tourney

DENVER, Aug. 15.—Robert Hill, president of Rocky Mountain Screen Club, has selected Aug. 30 as the date for the club's annual golf tournament and picnic to be held at the Park Hill Country Club. Tom Bailey will be general chairman of the affair.

Salt Lake Golf Event

SALT LAKE CITY, Aug. 15.—Fall golf tournament of the Salt Lake Motion Picture Club will be held Sept. 8-9 at Forest Dale with Harold Chesler, Bingham theatre operator, in charge.

To Rebuild Burned House

BRIDGEWATER, S. D., Aug. 15.—The new Virginia Theatre here will replace the Nancy, which was burned down.

Technicolor Cuts

(Continued from page 1)

cut down to about five months by the end of the year. A year ago the lapsed time, according to the company, amounted to as much as a year or more in some instances.

The company discloses that the average number of release prints ordered per picture stands at 415 so far this year.

RKO RADIO PICTURES, Inc. TRADE SHOWINGS of SAMUEL GOLDWYN'S

"A SONG IS BORN"

ALBANY	Madison Theatre, 1032 Madison Ave.	Mon. 8/23	8:15 P.M.
ATLANTA	Buckhead Theatre, 310 Roswell Road	Mon. 8/23	9:00 P.M.
BOSTON	Coolidge Corner Th., 290 Harvard St.	Mon. 8/23	8:00 P.M.
BUFFALO	Shea's Elmwood Theatre, 539 Elmwood Avenue	Mon. 8/23	9:00 P.M.
CHARLOTTE	Manor Theatre, 607 Providence Rd.	Mon. 8/23	9:00 P.M.
CHICAGO	Vogue Theatre, 3810 N. Broadway	Mon. 8/23	2:00 P.M.
CINCINNATI	Forest Theatre, 671 Forest Ave.	Tues. 8/24	8:50 P.M.
CLEVELAND	Shaker Theatre, Shaker Heights	Mon. 8/23	8:15 P.M.
DALLAS	Tower Theatre, 1913 Elm St.	Mon. 8/23	6:15 P.M.
DENVER	Jewel Theatre, 1912 S. Broadway	Mon. 8/23	8:00 P.M.
DES MOINES	Varsity Theatre, 1207 25th St.	Mon. 8/23	8:30 P.M.
DETROIT	Varsity Theatre, 17121 Livernois Ave.	Mon. 8/23	9:00 P.M.
INDIANAPOLIS	Zaring Egyptian Theatre, 2741 Central Avenue	Mon. 8/23	8:30 P.M.
KANSAS CITY	Rockhill Theatre, 4608 Troost Ave.	Mon. 8/23	9:00 P.M.
LOS ANGELES	Wilshire Theatre, 1314 Wilshire Blvd.	Mon. 8/23	8:30 P.M.
MILWAUKEE	Tosa Theatre, 6825 West North Ave.	Mon. 8/23	8:00 P.M.
MINNEAPOLIS	St. Louis Park Theatre, 4829 Minneatonka Blvd.	Mon. 8/23	9:00 P.M.
NEW HAVEN	Whitney Theatre, 1220 Whitney Ave.	Wed. 8/25	8:00 P.M.
NEW ORLEANS	Fox Th., Elysian Fields & Gentilly Ave.	Mon. 8/23	9:00 P.M.
NEW YORK	Colonial Theatre, 1887 Broadway	Mon. 8/23	8:45 P.M.
OKLAHOMA CITY	Uptown Theatre, 1212 North Hudson	Mon. 8/23	8:30 P.M.
OMAHA	Brandeis Theatre, 206 S. 17th St.	Mon. 8/23	9:00 P.M.
PHILADELPHIA	Logan Theatre, 4732 N. Broad St.	Mon. 8/23	8:30 P.M.
PITTSBURGH	Fulton Theatre, 101 6th Street	Mon. 8/23	8:45 P.M.
PORTLAND	Bagdad Th., 3708 S. E. Hawthorne	Mon. 8/23	8:30 P.M.
ST. LOUIS	Shubert Theatre, 318 North Grand	Mon. 8/23	8:30 P.M.
SALT LAKE CITY	Uptown Theatre, 53 S. Main Street	Mon. 8/23	8:30 P.M.
SAN FRANCISCO	Alhambra Theatre, 2330 Polk St.	Mon. 8/23	8:30 P.M.
SEATTLE	Egyptian Th., 4543 University Way	Mon. 8/23	8:30 P.M.
SIOUX FALLS	Hollywood Th., 212 N. Philips Ave.	Mon. 8/23	9:30 P.M.
WASHINGTON	Keith Th., 619-15 North St., N.W.	Mon. 8/23	9:37 P.M.

Accurate
Concise
and
Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

FIRST
IN
FILM
NEWS

64. NO. 33

NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, AUGUST 17, 1948

TEN CENTS

Income on the Upgrade At Key-City Runs

**Weekly July Average Was
\$14,771; In June, \$14,210**

Business at about 170 first-runs in key cities continued impaired some by the heat during July but nevertheless there was an improvement over the previous month, it is indicated in reports from MOTION PICTURE DAILY correspondents in the field.

Average income for July climbed to \$14,771 weekly at the key houses, compared with \$14,210 in June. Average revenue reported from the same sources for July, 1947, amounted to \$15,772. Average for the week ended on July 9 was \$15,522, the first week to reach that figure since the week ended on June 4, which was the first \$15,000 average week since early April.

A variety of new product on the national scene is generally credited
(Continued on page 6)

MPAA to Move for SWG Suit Dismissal

Motion Picture Association of America and member companies on Sept. 14 will ask the New York Federal Court to dismiss the suit filed against them by the Screen Writers' Guild which seeks a court order enjoining the defendants from adhering to their announced policy of non-employment of Communists. Notice of the dismissal motion was filed with the court here at the weekend.

The defendants charge that the
(Continued on page 3)

19 Named to TOA Convention Group

CHICAGO, Aug. 16.—William K. Hollander of Balaban and Katz, who is publicity co-chairman with Thornton Sargent for the national Theatre Owners Association convention to be held here in the Drake Hotel, Sept. 24-25, today listed Chicago aides who will serve on his committee, as follows:

W. B. Bishop, M-G-M; Eddie Solo-
(Continued on page 2)

Harford Trust Suit Settled with Seven

WASHINGTON, Aug. 16.—A settlement has been reached with seven of the eight major distributors—all but United Artists—in a treble damage anti-trust suit launched over two years ago by Harford Theatre Co. of Baltimore against the majors and the Durkee and Rome circuits in Baltimore.

Under the settlement Harford gets a better break on playing time, but no damages. Now Harford will have an availability of seven days from the opening date of the first neighborhood run in Baltimore, without regard to whether or when the Durkee and Rome theatres play the pictures.

The Durkee and Rome circuits were dismissed from the case in Dec., 1946 when Judge Letts ruled they could not be sued in the District of Columbia because they did not trans-
(Continued on page 3)

\$1,620,000 Trust Suit Filed Here

Six distributors and New England Theatres, Inc., have been named defendants in a \$1,620,000 anti-trust suit filed in U. S. District Court here by Prudential Theatres Co., Inc., and Playhouse of New Canaan, Inc., owners and operators of theatres in New Canaan and Darien, Conn.

Charges allege fixing of a uniform and unreasonable system of clearance in restraint of trade and commerce, conspiracy among defendant companies, unlawful and unreasonable preferred playing time, and unlawful "double clearance." Distributors named
(Continued on page 3)

Six Are Named in Percentage Actions

BALTIMORE, Aug. 16.—Six distributors have filed separate percentage suits in U. S. District Court here. Actions were filed by Universal, 20th Century-Fox, RKO Radio, Columbia, Warner Brothers and United Artists. Defendants in one or another of the suits are Windsor Theatre Co., Monroe Theatre Corp., Victory Theatre Corp., Fremont Amusement Corp., Morton H. Rosen and Morris R. Oletsky. Theatres named are the Windsor, Monroe, Fremont and Victory in Baltimore.

R. Dorsey Watkins of the Baltimore law firm of Piper, Watkins, Avirett and Egerton is attorney for each plaintiff with Sargoy and Stein of New York of counsel.

Hold Strategy Talks For AFM Meeting

Producer representatives will get together here this afternoon to discuss strategy to be followed in negotiating a new contract for studio instrumentalists with the American Federation of Musicians. At the same time the AFM's negotiating group will meet for a final discussion of demands to be made upon the companies.

Talks between both sides are scheduled to get under way tomorrow at the New York headquarters of the AFM.

MPEA Meets Today On French Proposal

Board meeting of the Motion Picture Export Association will be held here today to decide on the acceptability of the French government's proposal to free more than \$9,000,000 now blocked in France. Under the French-offered terms the money would be remitted to motion picture companies in the United States over a four-year period.

James Mulvey, president of Samuel Goldwyn Productions, will represent the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers at the meeting and presumably will accompany MPEA president Eric A. Johnston to Paris if the board today deems such a trip advisable. Mulvey and Johnston represented the industry in negotiating the British-American film agreement last March.

Johnston was in Chicago yesterday to attend a meeting of the board of directors of United Airlines, while Joyce O'Hara and Kenneth Clark of the Motion Picture Association of America's Washington office left the Capital yesterday en route to New York.

Still Working on First U.K. Payment

LONDON, Aug. 16.—John F. Warren, accountant appointed by the Films Agreement Control committee to administer division of American film companies' remittable balances here, has not yet made the first monthly allocation under the agreement. Allocations will be based on the monthly business of each company. Compilation of the business figures has not yet been completed.

The Board of Trade reports that no application has yet been received from Americans planning to utilize their unremittable sterling under Schedule B of the agreement.

Showdown In IA-Sopeg Tilt Is Due Aug. 27

NLRB Orders Election At UA; Intervenor Out

August 27 was set yesterday by the National Labor Relations Board here for the holding of a shop election among United Artists' home office white collar workers to determine their future collective bargaining representation.

NLRB's setting of the date climaxed three months of bitter jurisdictional controversy between AFL and CIO industry units, with UA's refusal to negotiate with CIO's Screen Office and Professional Employees Guild heightening the clash and marking the first time since adoption of the Taft-Hartley Law that a film company turned down a union which had not complied with the non-Communist affidavit provisions of the law. As a non-complying union, SOPEG may not appear on the ballot.

Meanwhile, NLRB regional director Charles T. Douds has disqualified
(Continued on page 3)

C. P. Skouras Given Variety Club Award

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 16.—Charles P. Skouras, president of National Theatres, exemplifies "our great American system," Robert O'Donnell, chief barker of Variety Clubs International, declared tonight in presenting Skouras with the "Great Heart Award" from Variety Club of Southern California.

Speaking before 900 civic, business and industry leaders at banquet ceremonies at the Cocoanut Grove of the Ambassador Hotel, O'Donnell declared that Skouras' "rise from humble, immigrant Greek youth to
(Continued on page 6)

Question Shortage Of Prints in Omaha

OMAHA, Aug. 16.—Members of the Allied Independent Theatre Owners of Iowa and Nebraska have called upon the organization's board of directors to investigate the availability of prints in the Omaha and Des Moines areas. At a regional meeting in Red Oak, Ia., a resolution was passed expressing the feeling "that there is a definite attempt to set up illegal clearances by a print shortage."

Rank Studios Shut Down for 2 Weeks

London, Aug. 16. — More than half of Britain's film production came to a standstill today when the J. Arthur Rank studios closed for two weeks vacation. The studios concerned are at Denham, Pinewood, Shepherd's Bush, Islington and Ealing and involve nearly 4,000 employees.

U.K. Films Council Members Completed

LONDON, Aug. 16.—President of the Board of Trade Harold Wilson has completed his Cinematograph Films Council with the appointment of two members representative of "independent persons." They are Prof. K. C. Wheare of All Souls College, Oxford, and John Brannigan, a Scottish trades-union executive.

For the first time, no Americans were appointed to the Films Council.

Second MPAA Ascap Meeting Here Today

Second of a series of meetings to consider the Federal Court's decision holding Ascap in violation of the anti-trust laws will be held here this afternoon by the copyright committee of the Motion Picture Association of America. Chairman of the conference will be Edwin P. Kilroe of 20th-Fox.

Howard Heads New Firm

Television has added a new corporate member to its fold with the incorporation of Special Purpose Films, producer of commercial films for screen and television. Hampton W. Howard is president of the new corporation, and John Fox, former account executive with LaRoche and Ellis and more recently with CBS, is head of the sales service department.

Hammerstein Services

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 16.—Private funeral services will be held here tomorrow for Mrs. James Walter Kays, former Elaine Hammerstein, silent film star, and her husband, who were among five motorists killed in a crash Saturday near Tiajuana. Her father, Arthur Hammerstein, flew here from Chicago.

Herbert Kneller, 50

LANCASTER, O., Aug. 16.—Herbert C. Kneller, 50, theatre manager here for the past 34 years, died unexpectedly following a heart attack at his home. He was manager of the Broad at the time of his death. Previously he had managed the Palace and Lyric.

Sunday Ban Upheld

ZION, Ill., Aug. 16.—Zion's law banning Sunday shows has been upheld in Circuit Court at Waukegan in a test case involving the Zion Theatre Corp. Attorneys for the circuit said they will take the case to the Illinois Supreme Court and were given 45 days to file a bill of exceptions.

Personal Mention

WILLIAM A. SCULLY, Universal - International distribution vice-president, and **MAURICE BERGMAN**, Eastern advertising-publicity director, have returned to New York from the Coast. Vice-president **CHARLES PRUTZMAN** is expected to remain in Hollywood for a few more weeks, while **J. CHEEVER COWDIN**, board chairman, and **JOSEPH H. SEIDELMAN**, foreign sales chief, are due back in New York this week.

HULDY MCGINN, California Theatres Association public relations director, is representing the industry at Stanford University's Workshop Conference on Leadership and Youth Problems, which opens tomorrow at the university.

RICHARD LESNICK, former Film Classics booker in Cleveland and son of **MIKE LESNICK**, accountant for Associated Theatre Circuit in that city, will be married to **BERNICE CASSELL** of East Orange, N. J., at the Hampshire House here on Aug. 28.

LESLIE E. THOMPSON, RKO labor relations head, has been named chairman of the motion picture division in the 1948 fund drive for the Travelers Aid Society of New York.

DANIEL SCHUMAN, son of **LEON SCHUMAN** of Hartford Theatres Circuit, has become engaged to **BELLA KATZ** of Colchester, Conn.

IRVING SHERMAN, Columbia assistant manager of branch operations, was in Cleveland last week from New York.

FRANK PHELPS, Warner labor relations head, is in Cleveland from New York attending the IATSE convention.

JAMES VAN HORNE, 20th Century-Fox salesman in New Haven, has resigned.

TED GALANTER, M-G-M exploiter in San Francisco, was married last week to **MILDRED BLACK**.

PETER THORNE has been named RKO Radio salesman in San Francisco.

LOUIS B. MAYER was at Stanford Hospital in San Francisco last week for a checkup.

HARRY M. KALMINE, Warner circuit president and general manager, and **HARRY GOLDBERG**, advertising-publicity director, left here last night for Washington and are due back at the end of the week.

EARL J. HUDSON, president of United Detroit Theatres, and **LEO FITZPATRICK**, television director for the circuit, have returned to Detroit from New York.

WALLACE DALE MACDONALD, son of Warner International vice-president **KARL MACDONALD**, will be married to **PHYLLIS ANN PEARSON** in Salt Lake City on Thursday.

RUFUS SHEPHERD, manager of the Broadway Capitol Theatre, Detroit, recently underwent an appendectomy at the Women's Hospital in that city.

F. J. A. MCCARTHY, Universal-International Southern and Canadian sales manager, left here yesterday for Charlotte.

C. J. FELDMAN, Universal-International Western division sales manager, is back at his desk here from a vacation.

I. E. LOPERT, president of Lopert Films, and **MRS. LOPERT** will sail for Italy and France next Tuesday on the *SS America*.

HENRY HAMMOND, Memphis representative for Monogram Southern Exchanges, has entered the hospital in that city for a check-up.

JACK BARRETT, Monogram sales representative in Florida, is in the hospital at Fort Myers, Fla., following a heart attack.

JOHN W. MANGHAM, president of Screen Guild of Georgia, will leave Atlanta this week for a sales meeting in Memphis.

ANDY W. SMITH, JR., 20th Century-Fox distribution chief, is on a Nantucket vacation.

THELMA HUGLUND has been appointed head booker for Universal-International in Atlanta.

GEORGE CAPPERS has sold his State Theatre in Hurley, S. D., to **VINCENT VAN EREN**.

Story of Green Bay Packers in Films

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 16.—Steve Brody, president of Allied Artists, has closed a producing-releasing deal with Tony Owen that will bring the story of "The Green Bay Packers," national professional football team, to the screen.

Picture will be handled in a documentary manner, according to Owen, who was a former co-owner of the Detroit Lions football team. All footage filmed by the Packers of their football games will be made available. Production is slated to start in late fall at Green Bay, Wis.

19 in TOA Group

(Continued from page 1)

mon, 20th Century-Fox; Lucia Perigo and Al Weinberg, Warner; Bob Hickey, Wally Heim and Lou Mayer, RKO; Leon Brandt, Eagle-Lion; E. G. Fitzgibbons, Paramount; Ben Katz, Universal-International; Norman Kassell, Essaness Theatres; Jim Ascher, Motion Picture Daily and Motion Picture Herald; Jerry Baxter and Leo Zablin, Variety; Jonas Perlberg, Borooffice; Joe Essler, Film Daily; Harris Silverberg, National Screen Service; Irving Mack, Filmack Trailer Co., and Jack Garber, Balaban and Katz.

Schary and Deutsch Start at MGM Studio

Hollywood, Aug. 16.—Re-marking, "I am anxious to put on a uniform and start playing with the team," Dore Schary started his new M-G-M studio executive duties today. Producer Armand Deutsch, who left RKO Radio following Schary's resignation at that studio, also started as M-G-M producer.

Fabian Acquires WB Strand in Brooklyn

Sale of the Strand, Brooklyn first-run, by Warners to Fabian Theatres was finalized here yesterday, it was announced jointly by Warners and S. H. Fabian. Fabian will take over actual operation of the house on Sept. 1. The latter's circuit also operates the Fox, another Brooklyn first-run.

Correction

Milton Kramer was inadvertently mentioned here yesterday as being general sales manager of Selznick Releasing Organization. He is chairman of the board. Milton Kussell is SRO sales manager.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center

"A DATE WITH JUDY"

Wallace BEERY • Jane POWELL
Elizabeth TAYLOR • Carmen MIRANDA
Xavier CUGAT • Robert STACK

A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

ALAN DONNA
LADD-REED
In
BEYOND GLORY
A Great Love Story
That Comes
Sliding Through

in Person
MARTHA TILTON
with **JAN MURRAY**
and **RUDY CORDUAS**
Extra Help! **RAY EBERLE**
Billy Hackett

PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

ROY DEL RUTH'S **"THE BABE RUTH STORY"**

Starring **WILLIAM CLARE**
BENOIX-TREVOR
An Allied Artists Production
CHARLES BICKFORD

ASTOR B'WAY AT 15TH ST. Cont. Performances • Pop Prices

Paramount Presents
RAY MILLAND
ANN TODD
GERALDINE FITZGERALD

in HAL WALLIS' production
"So Evil My Love"

DOORS OPEN 9:30 A. M. **Rivoli** 5'way & 49th Street

WB Seeks Dismissal Of 'Divorce' Suit

WASHINGTON, Aug. 16.—Stanley Co., Warner subsidiary, today asked the U. S. District Court here to dismiss a suit by K-B Amusement Co. to force Stanley out of the jointly-owned MacArthur Theatre on the ground that as yet there has been no judgment in the Paramount case regarding Warner or any other defendant to dispose of any theatre.

K-B claimed that Stanley should be forced out of the MacArthur because the Supreme Court said it was illegal for any of the "Big Five" to own a theatre jointly with an independent where the independent would otherwise be sole owner.

Stanley's motion today was based on the legal point that when a case is remanded by a reviewing court for further proceedings, as was the Paramount case, there is no judgment until the lower court enters its judgment in conformity with the opinion of the reviewing court. The opinion of a court is not a judgment, Stanley claimed, and therefore there is no final judgment against Warner in the Paramount case. Accordingly, the K-B suit is premature, Stanley said, and should be dismissed.

Attorneys for K-B said they would oppose the Stanley motion.

Wright to Stay on The Paramount Case

WASHINGTON, Aug. 16.—"Trust-buster" Robert L. Wright will stay with the Department of Justice until the Paramount trust case is finished, even if it takes several years. Wright was reported last spring to be ready to enter private practice. Friends declare he is determined to see the Paramount case through, and is working feverishly to prepare for the October hearings.

Meanwhile, George W. Wise, a member of the Justice Department's anti-trust division since 1938, has been assigned to handle and argue the Griffith case in Oklahoma City. Wise has been working on cases in the clothing, housing and building materials fields, and this is his first theatre case.

Philip Marcus will handle the further Schine proceedings.



Salesmen Ask Trust Action Dismissal

WASHINGTON, Aug. 16.—Charles Wingfield and F. B. Klein, film salesmen who also operate theatres and who are among defendants in a treble damage anti-trust suit pending here, have asked the court to dismiss the charges against them on the ground that the complaint does not state a cause of action under the anti-trust laws.

Wingfield of Columbia, and Klein of 20th-Fox, who own theatres in Church Hill and Chestertown, Md., were named on June 2 in a \$150,000 suit filed by the Center Theatre of Centreville. The Center claims their position as salesmen enabled them to get better pictures. Other defendants are Paramount, 20th-Fox, RKO Radio and Columbia.

Attorneys for Wingfield and Klein have told the court they did nothing to violate the anti-trust laws and that the Center suit should be thrown out. The motion will probably be set for argument this fall.

Harford Trust Suit

(Continued from page 1)

act business here within the terms of the anti-trust laws.

The Harford claimed that it was required to play pictures 14 days behind the Boulevard and Waverly theatres of the Durkee circuit and the Apollo of the Rome circuit. It declared that it was not competitive with these theatres, and the unfavorable terms were due solely to the buying power of the chains. It asked \$30,000 damages, trebled to \$90,000.

Attorneys for the Harford said they were pleased with the settlement, which will cut their delay from a minimum of three weeks—and often more—after opening neighborhood date to a minimum of seven days. Stipulations to dismiss the suit with respect to the seven settling distributors were filed here today.

Robert Sher, of Miller, Sher and Oppenheim, here, and J. Purdon Wright of Baltimore, attorneys for the Harford, said they expected to go to trial against United Artists this fall. Granville Whittlesey, of Donovan, Leisure, Newton, and Irving, represented distributors in the negotiations.

MPAA, SWG Suit

(Continued from page 1)

SWG complaint "does not set forth a short and plain statement of the claims alleged therein and the grounds upon which this court's jurisdiction depends; and that the averments of said complaint are not simple, concise and direct."

If the motion is denied, the MPAA and the companies ask as an alternative a court order directing the Guild to file an amended complaint deleting much of the text of the original alleged to be "redundant, immaterial and impertinent."

MPAA, Paramount, Loew's, RKO Radio, Warner, 20th Century-Fox, Universal and the Eric Johnston office are represented by Rosenman, Goldmark, Colin and Kaye. Columbia's counsel is Schwartz and Frohlich. Attorneys for the SWG are Monahan, Goldberg and Bredin.

IA-SOPEG Tilt

(Continued from page 1)

Cecilia Schuman as an intervenor in the dispute, informing her attorney, Sidney Fox, that an NLRB investigation disclosed that Miss Schuman was acting in behalf of SOPEG in seeking to have her name included on the election ballot. Hence, on Aug. 27 UA "collarites" will vote on whether they want to be represented by AFL's IATSE Motion Picture Home Office Employees Local No. H-63, which claims to have won "an overwhelming majority" away from SOPEG, or whether they want no union representation.

Workers Without Contract

Following a meeting yesterday at NLRB offices here among representatives of UA and H-63, Joseph Conlon, H-63 organizer, said, "we hope that there will be no more delays," and he again assailed SOPEG for deterring "democratic processes" by opposing the holding of an election. Meanwhile, the employees have been without a union contract for several weeks following the expiration of SOPEG's, but the company, when it rejected SOPEG, informed the workers in writing that union gains would not be endangered pending the settlement of the jurisdictional dispute.

Green Blasts Congress in 'IA' Convention Keynote

CLEVELAND, Aug. 16. — William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, today delivered the keynote speech at the opening of the 29th biennial IATSE convention here, with a blast at the 80th Congress for what he termed its failure to raise the 40 cents minimum hourly wage, meet the problems of high prices and housing, social security benefits, health insurance and protection of civil rights.

Denounces Taft-Hartley Law

Stressing that the Government should consider the conditions that make for Communism, Green lashed out at the Taft-Hartley Law and appealed to the 1,200 delegates to vote in the fall election against any Congressman who voted for the act.

Other speakers today were Mayor Thomas Burke, William J. Rogers, state industrial director, who substituted for Gov. Thomas Herbert; Michael Lynden, president of the Ohio Federation of Labor, State Congressman Michael Feighan and John F. Burns, president of the Cleveland federation.

IATSE president Richard F. Walsh announced the appointment of committees.

Edward Arnold is due here tonight from Hollywood to address tomorrow's session.

\$1,620,000 Trust Suit

(Continued from page 1)

are Paramount, United Artists, Universal, Columbia, Monogram and Eagle-Lion. Damages sought are specifically \$1,170,000 straight triple damages plus \$450,000 triple damages for "damage to properties" of plaintiffs.

Complaint states that New England Theatres operates houses in which Paramount has a 50 per cent interest or more. In addition to monetary damages, the plaintiffs are seeking elimination of all allegedly unlawful clearances for Darien, New Canaan, Norwalk and South Norwalk, Conn.

20th-Fox Will Hold Four Sales Meetings

General sales manager A. W. Smith, Jr., of 20th Century-Fox has set dates for four divisional sales meetings to be held next month. The Eastern divisional meeting will be held in New York on Sept. 8 and 9. The Southern sessions will be held at Dallas on Sept. 11 and 12. A two-day meeting with Central branch managers is slated for Chicago on Sept. 14 and 15, and the Western regional will be held in San Francisco on Sept. 17 and 18.

Williams in New Post

OTTAWA, Aug. 16.—C. E. Williams has been appointed comptroller and general office manager of the Film Laboratories of Canada, Ltd.



UNITED

Flight Facts



Guess I have the kind of job that every girl dreams about—stewardess on United's glamorous flight, "the Hollywood," the flight so many Hollywood stars and other famous people take!



This is the super deluxe DC-6 Mainliner 300 flight that leaves New York at 12:15 p.m., and arrives in Los Angeles at 8:25 p.m. In other words, just 11 hours, 10 min., coast to coast!



Everything on "the Hollywood" is tops in luxury. Thick carpets. Deep, soft seats. Powder room for the ladies. "Stroll-about spaciousness." Pressurized cabin. An observation lounge. And those m-m-m Mainliner steak dinners!



Even if you're not a celebrity, traveling on "the Hollywood" makes you feel like one!

Mary McLaughlin

United Air Lines Stewardess on "the Hollywood"

ADVENTURE FOR

*Robert
Louis
Stevenson's*
**BELOVED
NOVEL
COMES
TO
THE
SCREEN!**



THE MILLIONS!

COLUMBIA PICTURES
presents

Robert Louis Stevenson's
The **BLACK
ARROW**

STARRING

LOUIS HAYWARD • JANET BLAIR

and featuring

GEORGE MACREADY • EDGAR BUCHANAN

Screenplay by Richard Schayer, David P. Sheppard and Thomas Seller
Directed by GORDON DOUGLAS • Produced by GRANT WHYTECK

AN EDWARD SMALL PRODUCTION



Bergman and Aides To Promote 'Venus'

A "flying squadron" of Universal-International advertising, publicity and exploitation executives will visit 20 key cities beginning next week on advance promotion plans for "One Touch of Venus," Maurice A. Bergman, U-I Eastern advertising-publicity director, announces.

The group will consist of Bergman, Al Horwits, Eastern publicity manager, and Charles Simonelli, Eastern exploitation manager.

Republic in First Deal for Trucolor

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 16.—First outside deal for the use of Trucolor process, recently made generally available by Republic, has been negotiated by Howard Welch and Walter Colmes, who will independently produce "Montana Belle," using Republic studio space.

Fined on Violation

DETROIT, Aug. 16.—Hyman Bloom, manager of the Mercury Theatre, was fined \$100 and placed on six months' probation for permitting 300 more persons than are allowed by fire regulations to enter the theatre.

Review

"Luxury Liner"

(Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer)

Hollywood, Aug. 16

LIGHT, brisk, pleasantly humorous and musically noteworthy, this Joe Pasternak confection in Technicolor takes good care of its audience. Lauritz Melchior and Marina Koshetz give the addicts of top-drawer music plenty of the best to listen to, but devote most of their time and talent to comedy which is within the appreciation-range of everybody. Jane Powell works out in the grand-opera tradition, too, but also in the topical and swing divisions. And Xavier Cugat pilots his bandmen through typical musical interludes to excellent advantage. George Brent and Frances Gifford share the principal romantic complication, and Miss Powell shares a secondary one with Thomas E. Breen, the son of Production Code Administrator Joseph I. Breen, who makes an auspicious screen debut in this picture. The production, directed by Richard Whorf, from a script by Gladys Lehman and Richard Connell, plays a good deal better than it looks on paper, and figures to build as it runs.

Miss Powell, as the daughter of ship captain Brent, is the central character in the lightly told story. Against her father's instructions, she runs away from a fashionable school and stows away on his boat, the luxury liner of the title, as it heads out for Brazil. He undertakes to teach her discipline by making her work for her passage, but Miss Gifford, a young widow fleeing an unwelcome suitor, befriends her, as does Melchior, Breen and the others aboard. Thwarted in his disciplinary objective, Brent relents, and before the voyage ends he has wooed and won Miss Gifford, and his daughter has agreed to see things Breen's way. The shipboard setting is ideal for the smooth handling of a diversity of musical sequences which offer at least one number for every variety of taste.

Running time, 99 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

Many NY Key Spots Are Off; 'Judy' and 'Walls' Beat the Heat

S.R.O. shingles gathered dust at several New York first-runs this week as film attractions, in competition with beaches and other summer resorts, came out second best. Showshops with vaudeville are doing the best business. The weekend's intense heat did little help.

Two new films are running mild: "Mr. Peabody and the Mermaid" probably will take in \$24,000 in its opening week at the Winter Garden, while "Escape" is figured to take \$15,000 in a first week at the Globe.

The Music Hall's "Date with Judy" with a stage show is tops with a second week's gross estimated at \$152,000. Close second is "Walls of Jericho," with Dick Haymes, an ice revue and others on stage likely to bring the Roxy a big \$105,000. "Beyond Glory," with Peggy Lee, Jan Murray and Ray Eberle's orchestra in person all stack up as successfully at the Paramount where \$90,000 is apparent for a second week. The Strand's "Key Largo," with Count Basie and Billie Holiday on stage is good for \$52,000 in a fifth week; the show will continue, making an unusually long run for the house at this time.

"On an Island with You" with the "Stop the Music" give-away show is down to \$62,000 in a third and final week at the Capitol. "Pitfall" will follow on Thursday. At the Rivoli, "So Evil My Love" is growing weak with less than \$20,000 in sight for a fourth week. "Velvet Touch" will follow on Aug. 25. "Easter Parade," too, is showing signs of fatigue with an estimated \$33,000 likely for the seventh week at the State. This is still impressive in view of the length of the run, however.

"Return of the Bad Men" is about fair with \$15,000 probable for a second week at the Mayfair. "Babe Ruth Story" should do a moderate \$20,000 in a third week at the Astor. A strong second week's gross of \$12,000 is indicated at the Rialto, playing "Gung Ho" and "Eagle Squadron," reissues. The Gotham is continuing with reissue combinations and frequent changes and taking about \$8,000 per week.

Key City Income

(Continued from page 1)

with the upward trend. Films mostly cited were "Emperor Waltz," "Easter Parade" and "On an Island With You." Toward the end of the month "Key Largo" and "Abbott and Costello Meet Frankenstein" came in for a good share of top money. "A Foreign Affair" and "Canon City" figured importantly in late openings.

"Street With No Name" was well above average in several situations, while "Fuller Brush Man," one of the winners in June, continued to have good returns in July. "Return of the Bad Men" scored in Cleveland, Pittsburgh and Kansas City, while "Tap Roots" opened at a record-breaking pace in Philadelphia. "Fort Apache" was especially big in Toronto and some other locations. "The Paradine Case" did nicely in Chicago and Philadelphia. "The Search" commanded attention in Los Angeles, ditto "Ruthless." "Summer Holiday" was above average in Kansas City and Los Angeles.

Reade Drive-in Opening

Walter Reade's Drive-In Theatre located near Woodbridge, N. J., and first of 27 planned by the circuit in the next few years, will open Saturday night. It has a capacity of 950 cars and has provision for enlargement for 100 others. Julius Daniels, Reade city manager for Perth Amboy, will supervise and Samuel Shumer, manager of the Strand in Perth Amboy, has been transferred to the drive-in as manager. Edward Moroz, former assistant manager at the Majestic, succeeds Shumer at the Strand.

Mono. Southern Meet

ATLANTA, Aug. 16.—In Atlanta for a sales meeting with Arthur C. Bromberg, president of Monogram Southern Exchanges, were the following branch managers; Henry Glover, New Orleans; Hal Jordan, Charlotte, and Bailey Prichard, Memphis, with sales representatives from Atlanta and Charlotte.

WB Circuit Zone Meet

HARTFORD, Aug. 16.—Annual meeting of Warner Theatres' New England zone will be held on Aug. 31 at the Racebrook Country Club, Orange, Conn., with Harry Kalmine, president and general manager; I. J. Hoffman, zone manager, and Henry L. Needles, Hartford district manager, among executives who will attend.

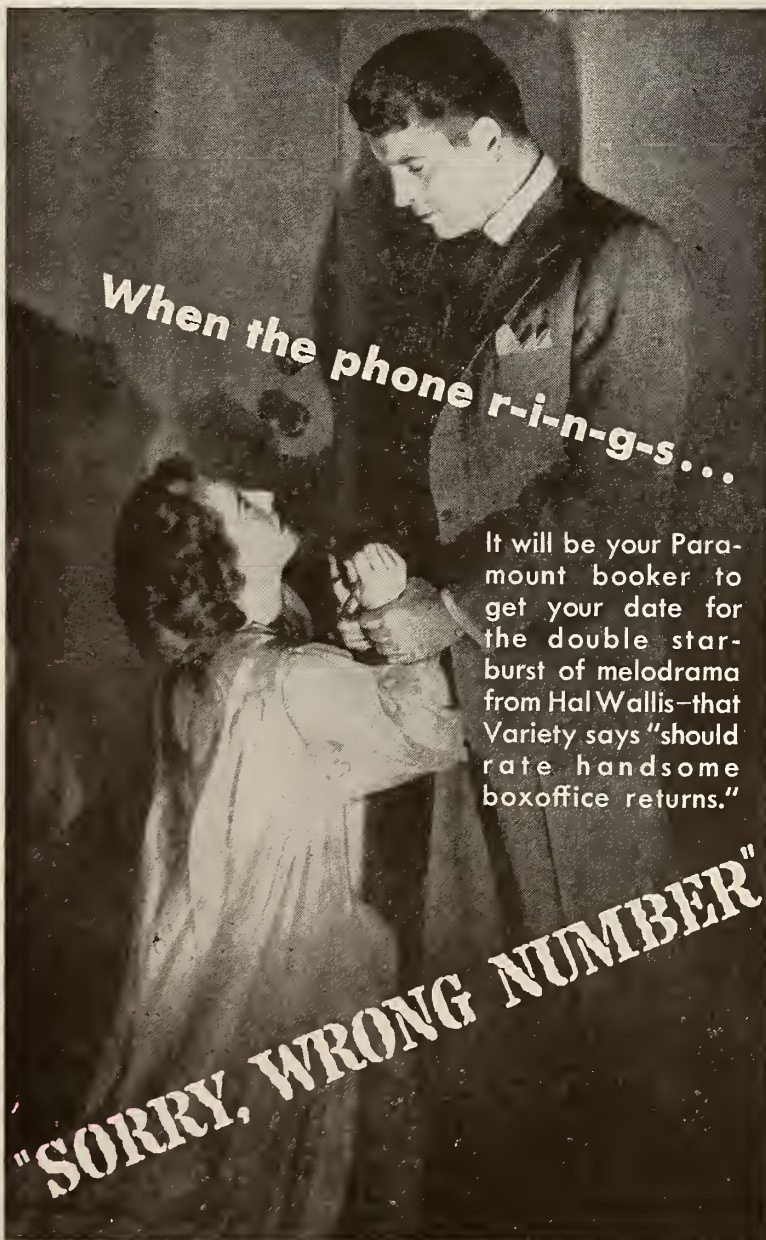
C. P. Skouras

(Continued from page 1)

become one of the country's most successful business leaders and outstanding citizens is a story in the best American tradition. Presentation of of the Great Heart Award to him is further proof that he has not forgotten his early beginnings and has continued, to this day, to lend his active support to the betterment of mankind.

Louis B. Mayer lauded the NT head for his "leadership in every worthwhile cause."

Other speakers introduced by toastmaster George Jessel included Mayor Fletcher Bowron, Joseph M. Schenck, Ted Gamble and Willard Keith.



MR. EXHIBITOR

Remember in September
to Join in Promoting...

WHAT TO DO

1. Order FREE accessories from National Screen—Campaign Book, Lobby Hangers, and "A Salute To Youth" trailer, featuring Sammy Kaye's orchestra and Youth Month song, "I'm the You in the U.S.A."
2. Decorate marquee and theater.
3. Run all Youth newsreel shots.
4. Book all possible Youth short subjects. See local exchange managers.
5. Put Youth Month slugs in ads.
6. Enlist support of newspapers and radio stations.
7. Interest civic and church groups, also Rotary, Kiwanis, Community Chest, American Legion, VFW, Lions clubs, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Campfire Girls, and youth serving agencies in Youth Month activities.
8. Conduct all possible Youth activity in and out of theater with at least four BIG community events.
9. Consult your state chairman. Work with your fellow Exhibitor in making your community YOUTH conscious.



A Public Service Program Undertaken by Theatres,
radio, press, and civic organizations at the request of
Attorney General Tom Clark to combat juvenile
delinquency!

YOUTH MONTH COMMITTEE

CHARLES P. SKOURAS · HARRY LOWENSTEIN
National Chairman Vice Chairman

SPONSORED BY THEATRE OWNERS OF AMERICA
TED R. GAMBLE, President

It's a Great "Life"!

**EXHIBITORS IN ST. LOUIS,
CHICAGO, BUFFALO, NEW
ORLEANS, HOUSTON, AKRON,
DAYTON, OAKLAND, BOSTON,
PROVIDENCE ARE HAVING
THE TIME OF THEIR LIVES
ROLLING UP THE MOST IM-
PORTANT GROSSES IN YEARS**

WITH

"The Time of Your Life"

JAMES CAGNEY • WILLIAM BENDIX • WAYNE MORRIS • JEANNE CAGNEY

in "THE TIME OF YOUR LIFE" • From William Saroyan's Multiple-Prize Play

with Broderick Crawford • Ward Bond • James Barton • Paul Draper • Gale Page • James Lydon • Richard Erdman

Produced by WILLIAM CAGNEY • Directed by H. C. POTTER • Adapted for the Screen by Nathaniel Curtis

This is the "Life" from UA!

Accurate
Concise
and
Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

FIRST
IN
FILM
NEWS

V. 64. NO. 34

NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18, 1948

TEN CENTS

'IA' to Fight For Television Jurisdiction

Walsh Tells Locals to Admit 16mm. Operators

CLEVELAND, O., Aug. 17.—The IATSE will fight to a finish for jurisdiction over television in theatres, in line with its oft-repeated claim of jurisdiction over everything within a theatre's four walls, "IA" president Richard F. Walsh declared here today in his report to the 29th biennial convention of the International which opened yesterday and will continue all week.

Walsh admits there exists a great problem in organizing the television theatre field due to the Federal Taft-Hartley Act and also to the reluctance of technical-college-trained technicians to join unions.

Referring to the 16mm. field, Walsh advises "IA" locals to admit 16mm. operators on separate wage-scale rates
(Continued on page 3)

Four Majors Settle Prudential Dispute

Warner, Loew's, RKO Radio, 20th-Fox and Selznick Releasing Organization have settled their clearance dispute with Prudential Theatres Co., Inc., and Playhouse of New Canaan, Inc., owners and operators of theatres in New Canaan and Darien, Conn.

The complainants charged the distributors with fixing uniform and unreasonable clearances in restraint of trade, unlawful preferred playing time and illegal "double clearance."

Loew, 20th-Fox and SRO agreed to eliminate South Norwalk and New
(Continued on page 3)

Overwhelming SAG Vote for Closed Shop

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 17.—By the overwhelming tally of 3,828 to 29 in a mail referendum conducted by the National Labor Relations Board the membership of the Screen Actors Guild has voted for the continuation of a union shop for film actors. The balloting continues contract arrangements in effect since 1937 under which any person who obtains acting work
(Continued on page 3)

Para. Television To Include Canada

Toronto, Aug. 17.—With the first demonstration of television reception in a Canadian theatre having taken place in the foyer of the Odeon Danforth here, Paramount announces that, when the Dominion government authorizes televised broadcasting in this country, Toronto will be included in a United States network for full-screen presentations in local theatres.

14 New Theatres for FP-C This Year

TORONTO, Aug. 17.—The Dominion-wide theatre expansion plan decided upon last year by Famous Players-Canadian Corp. is proceeding on schedule. This largest circuit in Canada has already opened six this year and eight others are expected to be in operation by the end of the year.

Among the eight being constructed are projects in Halifax, St. John, Port Arthur and Windsor, and three in Toronto. Work has also been started on theatres in Kelowna and Moncton.

Meanwhile Famous Players has purchased control of Skyway Drive-in Theatres, Ltd., and reportedly now owns approximately 90 per cent of the outstanding common stock of the circuit.

Skouras, Fanchon & Marco Expected to Sign New Pact

AFM and Producers Open Talks Today

Negotiations between producer representatives and the American Federation of Musicians for a new agreement covering studio instrumentalists will get under way this afternoon at the New York offices of the AFM. What new demands will be made by the AFM will be disclosed to the companies for the first time at today's meeting with a Federation delegation headed by president James Caesar Petrillo of the American Federation of Musicians.

Company negotiators will be led by Charles Boren, vice-president of the Association of Motion Picture Producers in charge of industrial relations, and Y. Frank Freeman, Paramount vice-president and AMPP board chairman.

MPEA Approves Dollar Agreement With French Gov't

Board of directors of the Motion Picture Export Association yesterday in effect approved a French government-proposed film agreement unblocking U. S. film company earnings in that country.

Eric A. Johnston, MPEA president, following the meeting, said that the board's action means the conversion and remittance of American-owned francs totalling \$9,800,000, the remittances to be made over a four-year period, computed quarterly.

An MPEA announcement said that the board "indicated it would approve the agreement with certain modifications which have been sent to the U. S. State Department for transmittal
(Continued on page 3)

Monogram Post to Nicky Goldhammer

Nicky Goldhammer, former Western sales manager for Eagle-Lion, has been appointed Allied Artists-Monogram Western sales manager by Morey Goldstein, general sales manager for AA-Monogram. A former district manager for RKO Radio before his association with Eagle-Lion, Goldhammer will make his headquarters in Chicago.

St. Louis, Aug. 17.—The next 60 days are expected to see the signing of a permanent management pact between the Skouras theatre properties in St. Louis and Fanchon and Marco. The pact, it is understood, will set up a permanent F. and M. management in the Skouras-owned Missouri and Ambassador theatres and St. Louis Amusement Co.

The Ambassador and Missouri are 3,600-seat first-run houses in the downtown and midtown amusement centers, respectively. Besides the Ambassador Theatre and office building, the Skouras' Ambassador Building Corp., through its wholly-owned Ambassador Investment Co., holds 52 per cent of St. Louis Amusement, owner or operator of 28 smaller theatres, with Fanchon and Marco the minority stockholder.

All of the theatre properties are
(Continued on page 3)

To Press for Concessions On U.K. Quota

Johnston, Mulvey Leave Here for London Friday

An effort to ease the effect of the British 45 per cent exhibitor quota will be made by Eric A. Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association of America, and James Mulvey, representing the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, upon their arrival in London on Saturday. They are scheduled to leave here by plane Friday.

Decision to make the trip was made at a board meeting of the Motion Picture Export Association which considered this and other matters at a full-day session here yesterday.

While the quota has been enacted into law by the British Parliament, effective Oct. 1, Johnston and Mulvey,
(Continued on page 3)

Limit Prints Under Greek Govt. Decree

By D. PAPADOPOULOS

ATHENS, Aug. 12. (By Airmail).—The Greek Ministry of National Economy has issued a new decree requiring government approval of all imported films, except newsreels, and limiting imported features and short subjects to four prints each. The Ministry will be the approving agency.

The Bank of Greece, the decree stipulates, will furnish the necessary exchange for newsreels on the presentation of an invoice of the consignor, the invoice to be duly ratified by the proper Greek consular authority. The exchange to be granted is not to exceed
(Continued on page 3)

Ascap, ITOA Will Confer on a Decree

Lawyers for Ascap and the ITOA are expected to confer in two weeks on the presentation of a decree to conform with the findings of fact made by Federal Court Judge Vincent L. Leibell in his decision finding the Society guilty of violating anti-trust laws.

The ITOA's draft already has been completed and is awaiting discussions
(Continued on page 3)

Production Off 4; 30 Now in Work

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 17.—The production index dipped to 30 from last week's 34. Six new films were started while 10 were completed.

Shooting started on "Mr. Soft Touch" and "The Lone Wolf and His Lady," Columbia; "Parole" (Orbit), Eagle-Lion; "Call of the Cactus," Monogram; "Prejudice," Protestant Film Commission; "Canadian Pacific" (Nat Holt Production), 20th Century-Fox.

Shooting finished on "Strike It Rich" (Wrather), Allied Artists; "The Big Cat," Eagle-Lion; "The Numbers Racket: the Story of Tucker's People," Enterprise; "A Date with Murder" (Falcon), Film Classics; "Rose of the Yukon," Republic; "Gun Runners," RKO Radio; "Frontier Phantom" (Western Adventure), Screen Guild; "Three Wives," 20th Century-Fox; "Mexican Hayride," Universal-International; "South of St. Louis" (U. S. Pictures), Warner.

E-L Holds Luncheon For Milton E. Cohen

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 17.—Some 100 theatre owners and motion picture executives from this area attended a luncheon here today at the Hotel Warwick to introduce Milton E. Cohen, newly appointed Eastern division sales manager for Eagle-Lion. Jay Emanuel acted as toastmaster and William J. Heineman, Eagle-Lion distribution vice-president, addressed the gathering.

Among those who extended greetings to Cohen were: Sidney Samuelson, Ted Schlanger, Mrs. Edna Carroll, chairman of the Pennsylvania Board of Censors; Lewen Pizor and Harry Berman, Paul Henreid, star and producer of the company's "Hollow Triumph," which will have its world premiere tomorrow in Reading, was also on hand.

Eastman Six-Month Net Increased 25%

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Aug. 17.—Eastman Kodak today reported 1948 semi-annual sales of \$192,480,338, a 25 per cent increase over the \$153,581,750 gross for the same period last year. Net earnings during the half were \$28,017,724, or \$2.24 per common share, compared with \$20,299,661, or \$1.62 a share for the corresponding period in 1947.

Current assets were \$217,708,802 and total assets were about \$300,000,000.

Enterprise Aims to Rent Studio Space

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 17.—The fact that studio space here is now available for leasing is understood to have prompted Enterprise Productions not to exercise its option for a new lease on its studio. The lease will expire on Feb. 14, 1949, when the studio will be turned back to Harry Sherman. The company is said to feel it would be better business today to rent studio space rather than operate a full plant of its own.

Personal Mention

IRVING MAAS, Motion Picture Export Association vice-president and general manager, will return to New York today by plane from Europe.

J. B. CRONK, vice-president of Canadian Picture Pioneers and recently retired as Empire-Universal Film promotion manager, and his wife will vacation at Long Beach, Cal., after which they will spend a year in Arizona.

WILLIAM B. ZOELLNER, head of M-G-M's short subject sales, will be in Los Angeles tomorrow from New York for conferences with GEORGE A. HICKEY, Western sales manager.

EDWARD L. HYMAN, Paramount Theatres Service Corp. vice-president and MAX FELLERMAN, theatre executive, will leave here today for conferences in Upstate New York.

MRS. CHRISTOPHER BUCKLEY of the General Stark Theatre in Bennington, Vt., has returned to that city from a business trip to New York and Albany.

GEORGE E. FREEMAN, manager of Loew's Poli, Springfield, Mass., has returned to his desk from a vacation at Hampton Beach, N. H.

GUTHRIE F. CROWE, president of the Kentucky Association of Theatre Owners, has been elected commander of the Kentucky American Legion.

RICHARD POWERS, head of the M-G-M studio music department, is here from the Coast.

EDWIN W. AARON, M-G-M assistant general sales manager, will be in Philadelphia today from New York.

HERB PETTEY, head of M-G-M's radio station activities, is on the Coast from here.

HARRY KURNITZ, Warner producer, is due here today from Los Angeles and will fly to London Aug. 29.

ROBERT J. WEITMAN, managing director of the Paramount Theatre, New York, is celebrating a birthday today.

JAMES P. CUNNINGHAM, news editor of MOTION PICTURE DAILY, is celebrating a birthday today.

Johnson Back to 20th

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 17.—Nunnally Johnson, who recently terminated a Universal-International contract, will rejoin 20th-Fox studio, which he left in 1943 after an eight-year tenure under a long term writer-producer contract next month.

New Premium Outfit

CLEVELAND, Aug. 17.—M. M. Jacobs is head of the newly-organized National Enterprises which has set up offices here to distribute theatre premiums and handle promotions.

MARK SILVER, United Artists assistant Eastern general sales manager, was in Boston yesterday from New York.

JACQUES CHABRIER, American representative of Pathe Cinema and president of its U. S. subsidiary, will return to New York tomorrow from France on the SS *Queen Elizabeth*. Also aboard are DAVID MACDONALD, J. Arthur Rank director, and JULIE HARRIS, costume designer for Rank's Gainsborough Studios.

DOROTHY BARKO of Century Theatres' legal staff is attending the Second International Conference of the Bar Association being held this week at The Hague. She is presenting a paper on "Modern Trends in the Law of Succession" to the conference.

JACK DAUT, son of FRANK DAUT, credit manager of Altec's New York district, has been awarded a four-year scholarship at Notre Dame University, starting this fall.

STANLEY SINSKI, associated with Glacklin and LeWitt Theatres in New Britain, Conn., for the past 22 years, has been named manager of the circuits' Strand in Plainville, Conn.

EDDIE CHRISTIANSEN, formerly on the staff of the Warner Theatre in Torrington, Conn., has been named assistant manager of the Arch Street Theatre in New Britain.

HERBERT J. YATES, Republic president; EDDIE CANTOR, EDWARD G. ROBINSON and VERA RALSTON are among passengers due here tomorrow from Europe on the SS *America*.

JAMES BENTON, who is associated with his father, WILLIAM BENTON, in the Benton Circuit of Saratoga, N. Y., and his wife, have become parents of twin sons.

BILL ROSE, former partner in Conrose Enterprises, Hartford, has left Hartford for Long Beach, Cal., where he will make his home.

S. J. GARDNER, M-G-M assistant Western sales manager, has left San Francisco for a three-week trip to Portland and Seattle.

HENRY STRAUSS, Columbia columnist contact, will leave here Friday by plane for Hollywood.

RKO, Nichols End Four-picture Pact

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 17.—RKO Radio and Dudley Nichols today annulled a contract, made during the N. Peter Rathvon-Dore Schary regime, under which Nichols was to have written, produced and directed four pictures, dividing his time between RKO and his interest in Independent Artists. Nichols will now devote full time to the latter, a partnership with Rosalind Russell and Frederick Brisson which produces independently for RKO release.

Newsreel Parade

BABE RUTH'S passing gives a solemn note to all current newsreels. Other events include the Russian spy exposures, President Truman hails "Youth Month," the 1948 soap-box derby, and the return of America's Olympic stars. Full synopses follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 66—Babe Ruth passes. U. S. orders Russian to testify before committee. Operation "splash!" President Truman hails "Youth Month." Tyrone Power visits Madrid. Soap-box derby. Water skiing.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 300—Baseball's idol, Babe Ruth, is dead. Operation "splash!" Injured teacher finds safety against Reds. New clashes menace truce in Palestine. Salute to "Youth Month" by President Truman. Soap-box derby.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 103—Accident on young America. Babe Ruth. Hiroshima, three years after. Incidents in Palestine's no-man's land. Operation "splash!" Greatest woman athlete comes home.

UNIVERSAL NEWS, No. 170—Babe Ruth dies. Bumper wheat crop at peak. President Truman presents new youth stamp for young America. Palestine truce allows Jews to retrieve bodies from no-man's land. Olympic stars return from England. Jousting in France. Soap-box derby.

WARNER PATHE NEWS, No. 1—Babe Ruth. Parachute boat. Un-American Activities Committee's hearings in Washington. Youth stamp. Women golfers. Soap-box derby.

Will Rogers Drive Started in Cleveland

CLEVELAND, Aug. 17.—The local Will Rogers Memorial Hospital drive for \$75,000 got off to a flying start yesterday at a luncheon-meeting at the Cleveland Motion Picture Exhibitors Association clubrooms, attended by 200. It was announced by I. J. Schmertz, general chairman of the drive, that an all-star performance will be given Dec. 22 for the benefit of the hospital.

Ernest Schwartz, CMPEA president, presided. Meyer Fine, head of the Associated Circuit, and other large circuit operators pledged cooperation.

\$750,000 Local Ad Campaign for 'Song'

A \$750,000 local assist campaign, to cover 74 key-city runs, has been set for Samuel Goldwyn's new Technicolor production, "A Song Is Born," starring Danny Kaye. The campaign, to include radio tie-ups, will be handled by the Monroe Greenthal Agency, the Goldwyn office here reports.

Edward Hill Amet, 87

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 17.—Edward Hill Amet, 87, inventor of motion picture equipment who perfected the magnograph in 1895, died yesterday at his home at Redondo Beach, Cal. Survivors include the widow, two daughters and two brothers.

Rites for Gable's Father

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 17.—Clark Gable arrived today for the funeral of his father, William H. Gable. The latter, 78, died Aug. 4 while Gable was on a tour of Europe.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher, Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIRCLe 7-3100. Cable address: "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo J. Sullivan, Vice-President and Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Feeke, Advertising Manager; Gus H. Fausel, Production Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 128 South La Salle Street, Editorial and Advertising. Urban Farley, Advertising Representative; Jimmy Ascher, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; Theatre Sales; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, \$6 in the Americas and \$12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

Fighting 18% Levy On Turkish Income

WASHINGTON, Aug. 17.—Distributors in Turkey are trying to get the government to remove a special 18 per cent tax on film royalties, according to a Commerce Department report by film chief Nathan D. Golden.

Golden says that motion pictures are subject to an 18 per cent "transaction" along with all the regular customs and other levies. Up to March 3, 1948, the 18 per cent tax was levied only on the actual cost of the film being imported, but on that date, the government ruled that the tax should apply to the royalties on the film as well. Importers have objected to this ruling, and are trying to get the courts to rule to the contrary.

Rumors are current that the dollar shortage may cause import licensing in the near future, the report declares, but "to date, no difficulty has been encountered in obtaining dollars to pay for imported films."

French Agreement

(Continued from page 1)

to the French government." This was regarded in trade quarters here as merely a formality.

Johnston said: "We were mainly interested in remitting our past earnings and continuing the flow of our films into France in the future."

Johnston and James Mulvey, representing the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, will leave for London on Friday, and after a stay in that country Johnston will visit other parts of Europe on industry matters. Mulvey will return to New York from London. Johnston will be accompanied by Joyce O'Hara, his assistant.

U. K. Quota

(Continued from page 1)

it is understood, will seek to have relaxed those provisions under which British exhibitors are given relief. The MPEA here merely announced that the two executives who negotiated the British dollar-exchange agreement last March will "meet with London representatives of American companies to consider the situation created by the British film quota." Strong feeling here is that the quota violates the spirit and intent of that agreement.

While the U. S. State Department has expressed its concern, it has yet to take formal action beyond instructing its Embassy in London to investigate, so far as is known.

Newman Back to Canada

OTTAWA, Aug. 17.—A. H. Newman, Canadian government central liaison for all American film production in Canada, has returned to Ottawa from a series of meetings with film interests in the U. S., including Hollywood. He will report directly to the Minister of Trade and Commerce, C. D. Howe.

Warner, Jr., in Britain

LONDON, Aug. 17.—Jack Warner, Jr. has arrived here from the U. S. to investigate a plan for Warner Brothers to produce a series of moderate-priced features. He is scheduled to act as liaison between the company and a British producer, as yet unselected.

Greek Govt. Decree

(Continued from page 1)

ceed \$50 for black-and-white news films and \$100 for color news films.

For approved features there is to be allowed an exchange equalling the value of the prints, transportation charges and the value of the accompanying advertising material. Profits accruing to the imported features and shorts, limited to 60 per cent of the total rights of exploitation, are to be deposited in the Bank of Greece as unremittable earnings. The new decree will remain in force until June 30, 1949.

Some \$500,000 has been set aside for the import of American pictures under the decree. The Ministry will later issue another decree applying to the importation of films from other countries. About 60 Italian-made pictures were contracted for here recently, and they are expected to arrive in Athens within the next few days.

British 'Week End' at Park Theatre Here

"Quiet Week End," produced in England by Associated British-Pathe in 1946 and distributed now in the U. S. by Distinguished Films, will have its American premiere at the Park Avenue Theatre here, tomorrow.

Reviewing the film from London in the May 24, 1946, issue of MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Peter Burnup, London editor, said in part: "Despite the absence of star names, discriminating showmen should make rich play with this piece of diverting comedy nonsense, as should their American counterparts." The cast includes Derek Farr, Marjorie Fielding, Barbara White and Frank Cellier.

Expect Resignations In Rank Circuit Posts

LONDON, Aug. 17.—Several executive resignations are due to follow the formation of J. Arthur Rank's Circuit Management Association to control Odeon and Gaumont-British. Already, Arthur Brown is slated to leave the booking management of G-B at the end of September with Richard Hamer, Odeon booking manager currently controlling bookings of both circuits. Meanwhile, William Thornton, Odeon manager, has been appointed controller of all of Rank's London West End theatres.

Selznick Signs Clouzot

Henri-Georges Clouzot, director of the French film "Jenny Lamour" who is now completing "Manon" in Joinville, France, has been signed by David O. Selznick to direct at least one film in Hollywood, it is announced here by Vog Film Co., principal distributor of Clouzot's pictures in this country.

New Irish Film Here

"My Hands Are Clay," a new Irish feature, is to be released here by Hoffberg Productions through arrangements within Dublin Films, Ltd., producer of the picture. Desmond Leslie, Irish novelist, is chairman of Dublin.

'Mermaid' Air Promotion

More than 450 radio stations in the U. S. have requested copies of the special 13-minute recording made by Universal-International featuring Jack Pearl as a special promotion feature for "Mr. Peabody and the Mermaid," U-I reports.

Operators Close Operator's Theatre

MEMPHIS, Aug. 17.—The De Soto Theatre here closed last night after 22 days of picketing by the local operators union. Walter L. Sawner, who bought the theatre and opened it July 24, is a licensed operator and ran the projection machines himself, asserting he could not afford to employ an operator.

Sawner said he will attempt to get an injunction to stop the picketing.

'IA' to Fight

(Continued from page 1)

so as to compete with non-union operators.

He touched upon exhibitor resistance to unionism, which he attributes to a box-office drop. Walsh also reported an agreement with the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad for train film operation. He advises extended activities to include summer stock, repertory companies and alleged non-profit enterprises.

Walsh called for a Social Security increase, reduction of retirement age to 60 and study of a pension plan. His report shows the addition since the last convention of 29 locals making a total of 940.

Because of the Taft-Hartley Act, he says, the League for Political Education must be extended, adding "the time has come when we must enter politics."

Walsh announced the appointment of the following committee chairmen: Resolutions, Harland Holmden; president's report, William B. Covert; special committee, Floyd M. Billingsley; finance, Michael Kennedy; grievance, James J. Brennan.

SAG Vote

(Continued from page 1)

in pictures is entitled to and must join the SAG within 30 days after the first day's work.

Referendum was required under the Taft-Hartley Law. Screen Extras Guild is preparing for a similar referendum, with a similar result anticipated.

K.C. Censor Retiring

KANSAS CITY, Aug. 17.—Mrs. Eleanor C. Walton, Kansas City censor since 1939 after joining as assistant film censor in 1933, will retire on Feb. 1, 1949, she has announced. Prior to the censorship post, Mrs. Walton was active in the Federation of Women's Clubs, was vice-president of motion pictures in that organization and chairman of the motion picture committee of the Women's City Club of Kansas City.

Americanism Short

"America the Beautiful," described as "a restatement of faith in the future of this country," is now available for distribution by Teaching Film Custodians, affiliate of the Motion Picture Association of America. The film, a two-reeler in Technicolor, was produced as a public service by Warner Brothers for the Treasury Department.

UA to Screen 'Pitfall'

United Artists will be host today to a group of jurists and sociologists at a special screening of "Pitfall," due to open tomorrow at the Capitol. Guests will include Justices Matthew J. Disserio and I. Montefiore Levy.

Skouras-F.&M. Pact

(Continued from page 1)

now operated by Fanchon and Marco or F. and M. subsidiaries under leases and management contracts which originally expired in 1946, and which have been extended from time to time while Skouras interests have been assembling ownership. The brief period of the last extension, from Aug. 3 to Sept. 7, lends color to the report that a permanent management agreement has been reached.

Meanwhile, Charles P. Skouras and George Skouras have made an official tender for all outstanding stock and bond issues in the Ambassador Building Corp. and Missouri Theatre Building Corp. which dominate the setup, and of which Charles Skouras and Clarence Turley secured control last year. Voting trustees are said to have agreed to a deal which can only be stopped by written dissent of one-third of the stockholders and is expected to be consummated in October, giving the Skouras brothers all of the two companies. Stockholders have until Sept. 10 to approve or reject the offer.

Prudential Dispute

(Continued from page 1)

Canaan clearances, while RKO and WB consented to end Stamford and New Canaan clearances.

Before the settlement was reached Stamford enjoyed a clearance of 30 days over Darien and 14 over New Canaan. New Canaan had 14 days over Darien and South Norwalk 14 days over New Canaan and Darien.

It was also stipulated that when a production runs more than seven days there shall be no clearance.

The charges that were made against the five companies are the basis of an anti-trust action filed by Prudential in U. S. District Court here against Paramount, United Artists, Universal, Columbia, Monogram, Eagle-Lion, and New England Theatres, a Paramount affiliate.

Third MPAA Ascap Meeting Is Planned

A third meeting was decided upon here yesterday by the Motion Picture Association of America's copyright committee to discuss the Federal Court's opinion holding Ascap guilty of violating the anti-trust statutes. The meeting will take place in about a week.

The committee met for the second time yesterday at the MPAA offices here to consider Judge Vincent L. Leibell's decision in the case.

Ascap, ITOA

(Continued from page 1)

with Ascap counsel. It is understood that Ascap's draft has not been prepared.

Should both sides be unable to reach an agreement on a common decree, each may submit one of its own to the court for consideration. There is no specific date for the presentation of a decree to Judge Leibell for his approval.

'Polio' Bars Youngsters

LOUISVILLE, Aug. 17.—Mayor Arthur C. Jones of Frankfort, Ky., says "there's going to be some padlocking" if theatres do not strictly enforce the "polio" ban against children. An order against those under 18 attending public gatherings was issued by the mayor several weeks ago.

HAVE A

CLARK GABLE
LANA TURNER
Anne Baxter, John Hodiak
in "HOMECOMING"
Ray Collins, Gladys Cooper,
Cameron Mitchell.

IRVING BERLIN'S
"EASTER PARADE"
(Technicolor). Starring
JUDY GARLAND, FRED ASTAIRE
PETER LAWFORD, ANN MILLER.

SPENCER TRACY
KATHARINE HEPBURN
VAN JOHNSON
Angela Lansbury
Adolphe Menjou, Lewis Stone
in FRANK CAPRA'S
"STATE OF THE UNION."

"SUMMER HOLIDAY"
(Technicolor).
MICKEY ROONEY
GLORIA DeHAVEN
Walter Huston, Frank Morgan
Butch Jenkins, Marilyn Maxwell
Agnes Moorehead, Selenia Royle.

"BIG CITY"
Starring Margaret O'Brien
Robert Preston, Danny Thomas
George Murphy, Karin Booth
Edward Arnold, Butch Jenkins
Betty Garrett, Lotte Lehmann.

JUDY GARLAND, GENE KELLY in
"THE PIRATE" (Technicolor).
Walter Slezak, Gladys Cooper
Reginald Owen.

ESTHER WILLIAMS, PETER LAWFORD
RICARDO MONTALBAN
JIMMY DURANTE, CYD CHARISSE
XAVIER CUGAT in "ON AN ISLAND
WITH YOU" (Technicolor).

"A DATE WITH JUDY"
(Technicolor)
Starring WALLACE BERRY
JANE POWELL, ELIZABETH TAYLOR
CARMEN MIRANDA, XAVIER CUGAT
ROBERT STACK.

GREER GARSON
WALTER PIDGEON in
"JULIA MISBEHAVES"
PETER LAWFORD, ELIZABETH TAYLOR
CESAR ROMERO, Lucile Watson
Nigel Bruce, Mary Boland
Reginald Owen.

MONTGOMERY CLIFT
ALINE MacMAHON
JARMILA NOVOTNA
in "THE SEARCH"

"LUXURY LINER"
(Technicolor). Starring
GEORGE BRENT, JANE POWELL
LAURITZ MELCHIOR, FRANCES GIFFORD
MARINA KOCHETZ, XAVIER CUGAT.

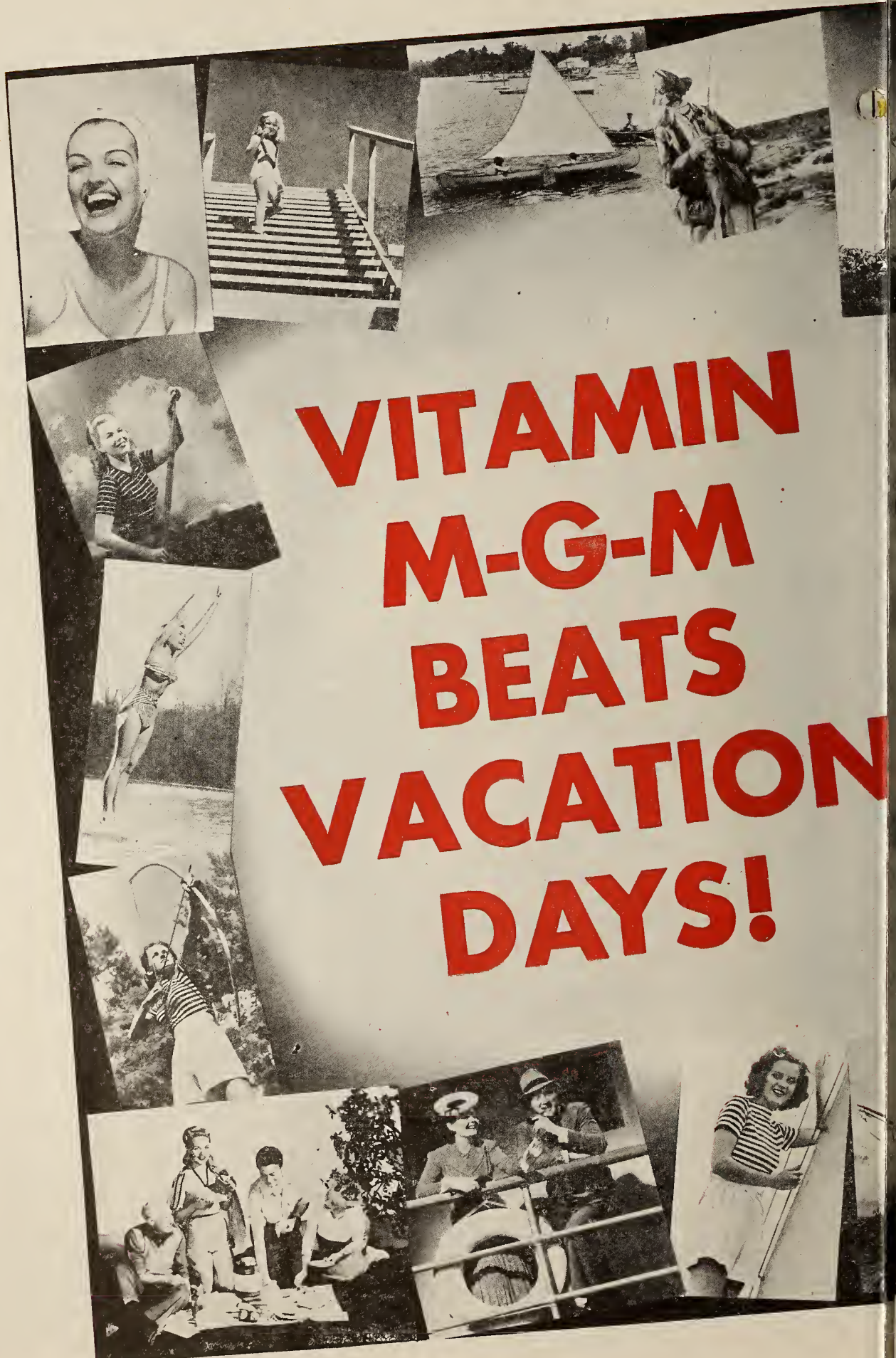
RED SKELTON, BRIAN DONLEVY
in "A SOUTHERN YANKEE"
Arlene Dahl, George Coulouris
Lloyd Gough, John Ireland
Minor Watson.

"NO MINOR VICES"
DANA ANDREWS, LILLI PALMER
LOUIS JOURDAN

"THE THREE MUSKETEERS"
(Technicolor).
LANA TURNER, GENE KELLY
JUNE ALLYSON, VAN HEFLIN
ANGELA LANSBURY
Frank Morgan, Vincent Price
Keenan Wynn, John Sutton
Gig Young.

"HILLS OF HOME" (Technicolor).
starring EDMUND GWENN
DONALD CRISP, TOM DRAKE
JANET LEIGH and LASSIE.

VITAMIN M-G-M BEATS VACATION DAYS!



SHOT-IN-THE-ARM!

New Music Hall Record!

"A DATE WITH JUDY"

(Technicolor)

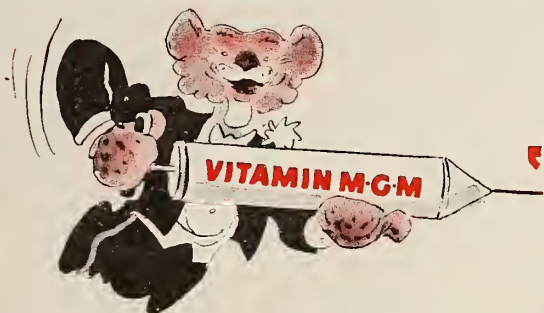
Biggest M-G-M first week in Radio City Music Hall history! Every new "play-date with Judy" terrific!



For Happy Box-Offices!

"ON AN ISLAND WITH YOU"

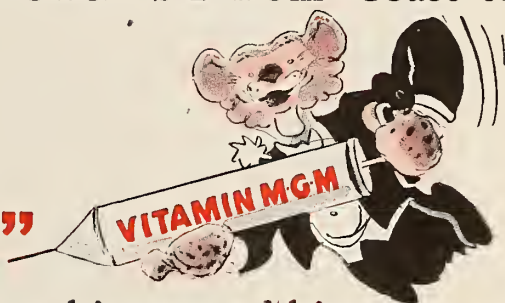
Just what the fans want in romance and music! Swell biz from Coast to Coast!



IRVING BERLIN's (Technicolor)

"EASTER PARADE"

Hold overs! Extended runs! It's getting bigger and bigger as its fame and its song hits sweep the nation!

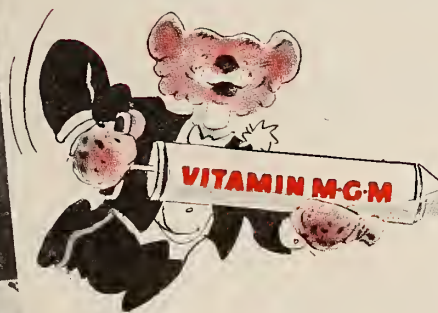


Read the Reviews on

"A SOUTHERN YANKEE"

Here's a typical review from M. P. Daily:

"Red Skelton raises the roof. If you thought he was a boon to tired theatre-goers in 'Fuller Brush Man' you'll be as pleased as the preview crowd was, unanimously, to discover that you ain't seen nothin' yet. It's the fastest, funniest comedy of this or any recent year!"



Ain't it the dog-gone truth!

M-G-M GREAT IN '48!

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY correspondents. Estimates omit admission tax.

CHICAGO

Peak business normally expected in August is holding up exceptionally well. On the sensational side is "Easter Parade," "Abbott and Costello Meet Frankenstein" and "Give My Regards to Broadway" with a strong stage show. Exception is "Lulu Belle" hitting a new low. Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 19:

ABBOTT AND COSTELLO MEET FRANKENSTEIN (U-I)—PALACE (2,500) (50c-65c-98c). Gross: \$40,000. (Average: \$21,000).

EASTER PARADE (M-G-M)—WOODS (1,080) (98c). Gross: \$42,000. (Average: \$23,000).

FEUDIN', FUSSIN' AND A-FIGHTIN' (U-I)—GRAND (1,150) (50c-65c-98c). Gross: \$8,500. (Average: \$11,500).

GIVE MY REGARDS TO BROADWAY (20th-Fox)—CHICAGO (3,900) (50c-65c-98c). On stage: Disc Jockeys and Sara Vaughn. Gross: \$70,000. (Average: \$53,500).

LIFE WITH FATHER (WB)—ROOSEVELT (1,500) (50c-65c-98c). Gross: \$18,000. (Average: \$18,000).

LULU BELLE (Col.)—APOLLO (1,200) (50c-65c-98c). 2nd week. Gross: \$4,500. (Average: \$14,000).

ON AN ISLAND WITH YOU (M-G-M)—STATE LAKE (2,700) (50c-65c-98c). 2nd week. Gross: \$20,000. (Average: \$25,000).

SIXTEEN FATHOMS DEEP (Mono.)—THUNDERHOOF (Mono.)—GARRICK (1,000) (50c-65c-98c). Gross: \$11,000. (Average: \$10,000).

SUMMER HOLIDAY (M-G-M)—UNITED ARTISTS (1,700) (50c-65c-98c). Gross: \$18,000. (Average: \$20,000).

THE TIME OF YOUR LIFE (UA)—ORIENTAL (3,300) (50c-65c-98c) 6 days, 2nd week. On stage: Horace Heidt's Stars. Gross: \$50,000. (Average: \$45,000).

BOSTON

Weather is still fine during the day, with the evenings cool. Business is still fair. Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 18:

A FOREIGN AFFAIR (Para.) and **OUT OF THE STORM (Rep.)**—PARAMOUNT (1,700) (40c-80c). Gross: \$14,500. (Average: \$17,000).

A FOREIGN AFFAIR (Para.) and **OUT OF THE STORM (Rep.)**—FENWAY (1,373) (40c-80c). Gross: \$5,900. (Average: \$10,000).

ANTOINETTE AND ANTOINETTE (Sirtzky) and **THE SEARCH (M-G-M)**—EXETER (1,300) (45c-75c). Gross: \$2,600. 4 days.

Review

"Isn't It Romantic?"

(Paramount)

WHILE "Isn't It Romantic?" falls considerably short of the mark, it possesses a breezy quality and a fast tempo that will make it possible to gloss over some of its inadequacies. The picture's shortcomings are made to seem less apparent by a spendthrift production hardly warranted by so inconsequential and so commonplace a yarn. It is fortunate that every last sound of laughter has been wrung from the Theodore Strauss-Joseph Mischel-Richard L. Breen screenplay by director Norman S. McLeod and a hard-working cast.

The film is a sort of hybrid, teetering between straight comedy and musical. It is the light treatment of the story of an old Southern diehard still living in the past who is drawn innocently into a swindle affecting the fortunes of many of the townspeople. The fact one of the daughters is in love with a city slicker swindler creates complications. But all is straightened out in routine fashion.

There are interpolated numbers that seem strangely out of place, serving merely to pad out the footage. De Wolfe participates prominently in several of them, not to best advantage, however. Roland Culver is the transplanted Southern gentleman; Veronica Lake, the straying daughter; Patric Knowles, the charming swindler, and De Wolfe, Miss Lake's fiancé. Other players include Mona Freeman, Mary Hatcher and Richard Webb. Daniel Dare produced.

Running time, 87 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Oct. 8.

HUNGRY HILL (U-I) and **SMART WOMAN (AA-Mono)**—EXETER (1,300) (45c-75c). Gross: \$1,500. 3 days.

KEY LARGO (WB) and **THE SHANGHAI CHEST (Mono.)**—METROPOLITAN (4,367) (40c-80c). Gross: \$19,750. (Average: \$27,000.) 2nd week.

THE BABE RUTH STORY (AA-Mono) and **DEVIL'S CARGO (FC)**—RKO-MEMORIAL (3,000) (40c-80c). Gross: \$25,000. (Average: \$22,000).

THE FULLER BRUSH MAN (Col.) and **ADVENTURES IN SILVERADO (Col.)**—ASTOR (1,300) (44c-80c). Gross: \$5,800. (Average: None available).

THE PARADISE CASE (SRO) and **MY DOG RUSTY (Col.)**—STATE (3,500) (40c-80c). Gross: \$14,000. (Average: \$12,000).

THE PARADISE CASE (SRO) and **MY DOG RUSTY (Col.)**—ORPHEUM (3,000) (40c-80c). Gross: \$25,000. (Average: \$27,000).

THE STREET WITH NO NAME (20th-Fox) and **FRENCH LEAVE (Mono.)**—RKO BOSTON (3,200) (40c-80c). 2nd week. Gross: \$8,000. (Average: None on summer schedule).

SIXTEEN FATHOMS DEEP (Mono.)—MODERN (800) (45c-85c). Gross: \$4,500. (Average: None available).

PITTSBURGH

Paramount's "A Foreign Affair," which received an excellent reception from local critics, easily exceeded the house average by attracting \$21,000 in its first week at the Stanley. M-G-M's "Easter Parade" was held over for a third week at the Ritz on a moveover from the Penn. Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 19:

A FOREIGN AFFAIR (Para.)—STANLEY (3,800) (44c-60c-76c). Gross: \$21,000. (Average: \$15,000).

DEEP WATERS (20th-Fox)—FULTON (1,700) (44c-60c-76c) 2nd week. Gross: \$6,500. (Average: \$9,700).

EASTER PARADE (M-G-M)—RITZ (1,100) (44c-60c-76c) 3rd week on a moveover from the Penn. Gross: \$4,500. (Average: \$3,500).

EMBRACEABLE YOU (WB) and **THE DUDE GOES WEST (AA-Mono.)**—WARNER (2,000) (44c-60c-76c). Gross: \$8,500. (Average: \$8,000).

THE BLACK ARROW (Col.)—J. P. HARRIS (2,000) (44c-60c-76c). Gross: \$12,000. (Average: \$11,000).

THE WALLS OF JERICHO (20th-Fox)—SENATOR (1,700) (44c-60c-76c) 2nd week on a moveover from the J. P. Harris. Gross: \$3,000. (Average: \$3,500).

TIME OF YOUR LIFE (UA)—PENN (3,400) (44c-60c-76c). Gross: \$17,000. (Average: \$15,000).

CINCINNATI

"That Lady in Ermine" is heading for an expected \$17,500 at the RKO Albee, one of the best weeks at that house in some time. Other returns are on a satisfactory level, despite the proverbial "dog days" and extremely

hot weather. Estimated receipts for the week ended Aug. 17:

CANON CITY (E-L)—RKO SHUBERT (2,150) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 2nd week, on a moveover from the Palace. Gross: \$5,000. (Average: \$5,000).

EASTER PARADE (M-G-M)—RKO CAPITOL (2,000) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 4th week. Gross: \$9,000. (Average: \$10,000).

A FOREIGN AFFAIR (Para.)—RKO PALACE (2,700) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: \$14,000. (Average: \$15,000).

MR. PEABODY AND THE MERMAID (U-I)—KEITH'S (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: \$10,000. (Average: \$7,500).

RAW DEAL (E-L)—RKO GRAND (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: \$10,000. (Average: \$8,000).

RETURN OF THE BAD MEN (RKO Radio)—RKO LYRIC (1,400) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 3 days, 2nd week, on a moveover from the Albee. **DEEP WATERS (20th-Fox)**—RKO LYRIC (1,400) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 3 days, 2nd week, on a moveover from the Grand. Combined gross: \$6,000. (Average for 7 days: \$5,000).

THAT LADY IN ERMINE (20th-Fox)—RKO ALBEE (3,300) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: \$17,500. (Average: \$15,000).

ATLANTA

Business is above average in all theatres. Weather is hot and dry; estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 18.

GUNG HO (FC) and **TOUGH GUYS (Realart)**—TOWER (1,865) (17c-50c). Gross: \$6,000. (Average: \$5,800).

FOUR FACES WEST (UA)—PARAMOUNT (2,446) (12c-50c). Gross: \$6,200. (Average: \$5,800).

LETTER FROM AN UNKNOWN WOMAN (U-I)—LOEW'S GRAND (Holdover) (2,446) (12c-54c). Gross: \$12,000. (Average: \$15,000).

TAP ROOTS (U-I)—FOX (4,446) (12c-50c). Gross: \$15,250. (Average: \$15,000).

WALLS OF JERICHO (20th-Fox)—ROXY (holdover from FOX). (2,446) (12c-50c). Gross: \$6,000. (Average: \$5,800).

BALTIMORE

Continued cool weather continues to help first-runs. Newcomers are doing better now than earlier in the summer. "The Pirate," with a strong opening and substantial weekend crowds is keeping the box-office busy. "Lulu Belle" with a stage show also is big. Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 19:

ABBOTT AND COSTELLO MEET FRANKENSTEIN (U-I)—KEITH'S (2,404) (25c-37c-44c-54c). 2nd week. Gross: \$9,750. (Average: \$12,000).

FANNY (Sirtzky International)—LITTLE (328) (29c-37c-56c) 2nd week. Gross: \$2,500. (Average: \$3,000).

GALLANT LEGION (Rep.)—MAYFAIR

(1,000) (21c-29c-54c). Gross: \$4,500. (Average: \$5,000).

KEY LARGO (WB)—STANLEY (3,211) (29c-37c-50c-58c). 2nd week. Gross: \$10,500. (Average: \$14,000).

LULU BELLE (Col.)—HIPPODROME (2,205) (29c-37c-50c-58c). With a stage show. Gross: \$20,000. (Average: \$17,500).

THE BABE RUTH STORY (AA-Mono)—TOWN (1,450) (29c-37c-56c). 3rd week. Gross: \$10,500. (Average: \$11,000).

THE PIRATE (M-G-M)—CENTURY (3,000) (29c-37c-45c-54c) Gross: \$19,500. (Average: \$14,500).

THE TIME OF YOUR LIFE (UA)—VALENCIA (1,466) (29c-37c-45c-54c). 2nd week. Gross: \$6,500. (\$5,000).

WALLS OF JERICHO (20th-Fox)—NEW (1,800) (29c-40c-50c-54c) Gross: \$13,000. (Average: \$11,750).

MINNEAPOLIS

"The Street with No Name" topped a week of mediocre theatre business that was featured mainly by holdovers. Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 19:

EASTER PARADE (M-G-M)—RADIO CITY (4,000) (50c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: \$11,500. (Average: \$16,000).

FOUR FEATHERS AND DRUMS (FC Reissues)—RKO PAN (1,500) (50c-70c). Gross: \$8,500. (Average: \$8,000).

JASSY (U-I)—CENTURY (1,500) (50c-70c) 6 days. Gross: \$3,000. (Average for 7 days: \$5,500).

KEY LARGO (WB)—RKO ORPHEUM (2,800) (50c-70c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: \$10,000. (Average for 7 days: \$12,500).

OLD LOS ANGELES (Rep.) and **JINX MONEY (Mono.)**—GOPHER (1,000) (44c-50c). Gross: \$3,500. (Average: \$3,200).

THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—LYRIC (1,100) 2nd week. Gross: \$5,000. (Average: \$5,000).

THE STREET WITH NO NAME (20th-Fox)—STATE (2,300) (50c-70c). Gross: \$14,000. (Average: \$10,500).

U-I's 'Saxon Charm' Rated 'B' by Legion

Universal-International's "The Saxon Charm" was given a "B" rating by the National Legion of Decency in classifying nine pictures. In addition, the Legion has changed the classification of Distinguished Films' "Passionelle" (French) from "C" to "B".

Columbia's "Man from Colorado" and Warners' "Smart Girls Don't Talk" were rated A-II. Classified as A-I were: "Cowboy Cavalier," "Fighting Ranger" and "Music Man," all Monogram; "Luxury Liner," M-G-M; "Marshal of Amarillo," Republic; "Miraculous Journey," Film Classics.



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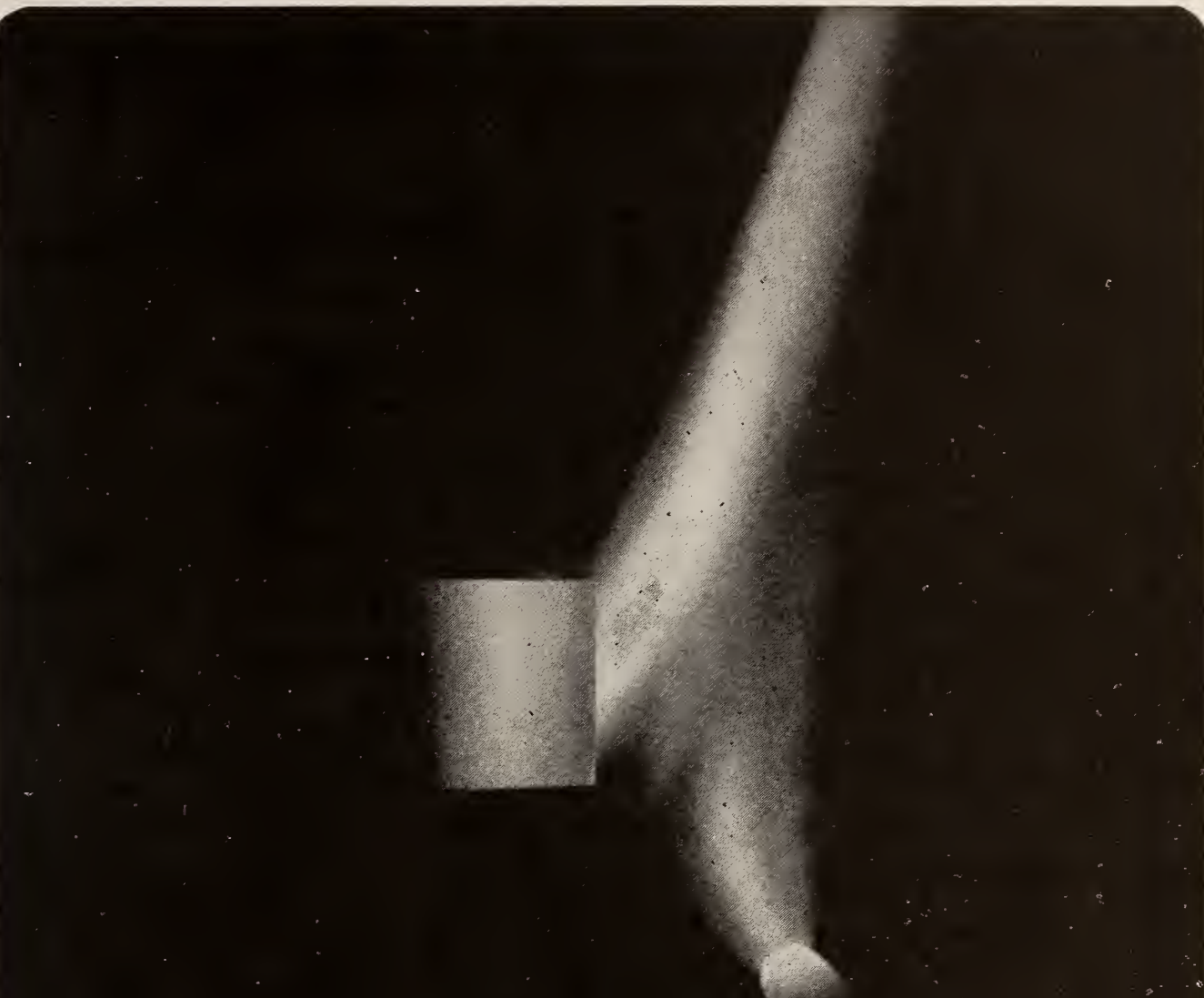
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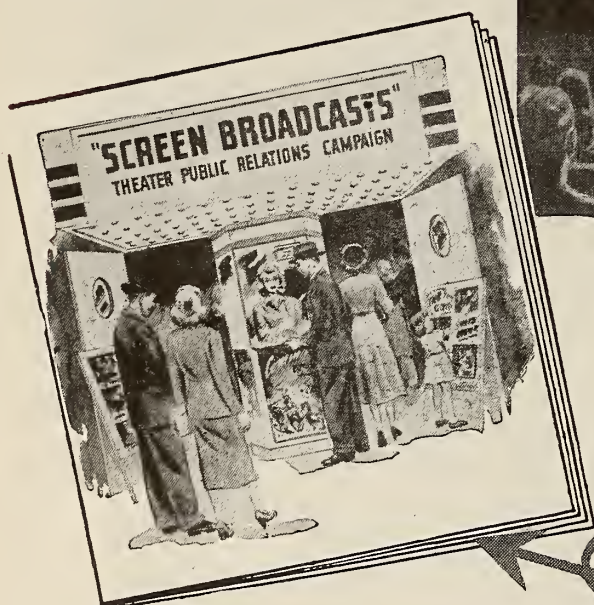
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NEW YORK, U. S. A., THURSDAY, AUGUST 19, 1948

TEN CENTS

Petrillo Seen Making Bid to Add Manpower

Move Hinted at Opening Of Talks With Producers

That Hollywood studios will be faced with a demand for the employment of more instrumentalists was indicated here yesterday as representatives of the American Federation of Musicians and producers assembled at the New York headquarters of the AFM to initiate negotiations for a new contract for musicians in film production.

The hint that the studios would be asked to hire more musicians came in an informal exchange of views by both sides when James C. Petrillo, president of the AFM, made reference to the unemployment existing among musicians on the Coast and observed that they could very well do with more

(Continued on page 3)

Ascap, Taxes Up at Three NCA Meetings

MINNEAPOLIS, Aug. 18. — Three more regional meetings outstate will be held by North Central Allied in the next six weeks, it was announced by Stanley Kane, executive director for the exhibitor unit. The meetings will be held at Sioux Falls, S. D.; Bismarck, N. D., and Duluth.

Discussions at the meetings will center on Ascap, legislation, municipal and state taxation, organization and

(Continued on page 2)

Urges 'IA' Attack on Taft-Hartley Act

Cleveland, Aug. 18.—Joseph Keenan, national director of the Labor League for Political Education, addressing the 29th biennial convention of the IATSE here today, urged a 100 per cent registration and vote for the repeal of the Taft-Hartley Act.

Today's session was devoted mainly to reports on general executive committee meetings. Silent prayers for Babe Ruth marked the opening, and a wire was read from MPAA president Eric Johnston withdrawing as a speaker today because of business pressure.

'IA' Hears O'Brien Co-operation Bid

CLEVELAND, Aug. 18.—Tom O'Brien, secretary of Britain's National Association of Kinematograph Employees, today hailed as a magnificent compromise job the British tax settlement agreement arrived at by Motion Picture Association of America president Eric A. Johnston and British Board of Trade president Harold Wilson. Speaking before the biennial convention of IATSE in Municipal Auditorium here, O'Brien, a member of the House of Commons, reiterated his advocacy of a joint international

(Continued on page 3)

MPEA Meets Again On UK Quota Action

Pressing nature of preparation for the new marketing conditions for U. S. films in England which will arise when that country's new 45 per cent exhibitor quota becomes effective on Oct. 1 was stressed anew when Eric A. Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Export Association, and presidents of the film companies met yesterday for the second consecutive day on Johnston's agenda in London, where he will arrive at the weekend. He and James Mulvey, representing the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, will leave New York by plane tomorrow for the British capital.

The two executives plan an on-the-spot analysis of the probable effects of the quota with the object of strengthening the U. S. companies' position.

While it is understood they will endeavor to have modified some of the provisions of the British Quota Act, some sort of positive action also is seen as a possible outcome. An example, it was said, could be the in-

(Continued on page 3)

UA Offers 'Life' in Chicago for Bidding

CHICAGO, Aug. 18.—United Artists' "The Time of Your Life" will be sold here on a bidding basis. This is the third U. A. film released in this territory since the company adopted competitive bidding, although its "On Our Merry Way" was sold under the old system.

Crescent Asks Court to Approve 8-City Expansion

NASHVILLE, Aug. 18.—In the largest expansion move to date planned by a circuit operating under existing Federal Court consent decrees, Crescent Amusement Co. has filed a petition with Judge Elmer D. Davies in U. S. Circuit Court here for the right to expand into eight towns in Tennessee, Alabama and Kentucky, the petition seeking to meet the requirements of the decree in the U. S.-Crescent anti-trust suit.

New houses are proposed for Cleveland, Greeneville, Morristown, Union City and Columbia, Tenn., and drive-ins are proposed for Clarksville, Tenn., Hopkinsville, Ky., and Decatur, Ala.

Pointing out that some of the proposed construction will replace Crescent theatres now in operation, the petition states: "The proposed build-

ing program would have been the normal expansion of the petitioner's holdings because of population increases and stimulated public interest in motion pictures had it not been for the war and consequent restrictions and shortages of materials and labor."

The building program proposes the following construction: At Cleveland, a new house to replace the Princess and the Bohemia; at Greeneville, a third house with the Capitol and Palace; at Morristown, a third house with the Princess and Ritz; at Columbia, a third house with the Princess and Lyric. The proposed drive-ins near Clarksville, Hopkinsville and Decatur would all be new. The petition was signed by R. E. Baulch, president of Crescent.

There is no indication of how soon Judge Davies will act.

Ask Clearance Reductions in New York Area

Skouras, Century Want Break with Loew's, RKO

Demands for clearance reductions are being put to distributors by Skouras Theatres, Fox Metropolitan Playhouses and Century Circuit in widespread sections of the Metropolitan New York area.

Involved are playing situations in the Bronx, Brooklyn, Westchester and Long Island where existing clearance is held by Loew's and RKO theatres over petitioners' houses. Demands, for the most part, are for the complete elimination of clearance between houses of the three circuits and zone first-runs, which in most cases are either Loew's or RKO houses.

Distributor and circuit spokesmen said yesterday the demands have been under discussion for some time but that no action has been taken yet by way of clearance reductions. On the distribution end, several spokesmen intimated they were not averse to

(Continued on page 2)

Anti-UK Film Drive Hits E-L Schedule

Assailing as "unfair and unauthorized" the organized boycotting of British pictures which has spread rapidly in New York during the past month, William J. Heineman, Eagle-Lion's distribution vice-president, said here yesterday that he has decided to withhold from release, temporarily, J. Arthur Rank's "Oliver Twist" until the impetus of the boycott dies down. The company prefers to be cautious with "Oliver Twist" under the circumstances because of its "importance," he said, adding that E-L does not expect to exercise similar caution

(Continued on page 3)

FP-C Earnings Are Riding High

Toronto, Aug. 18.—Earnings of Famous Players-Canadian Corp. were higher in the first half of this year than they were in the first half of 1947, and went higher in July and again in August, to-date. Specific figures will be made available later.

Personal Mention

WILLIAM L. AINSWORTH, president of Allied States, is a New York visitor.

PHIL HARRIS and his wife, **ALICE FAYE**; **HARRY RICHMAN** and his wife, **MARILYN MAXWELL**; **SOPHIE TUCKER** and **JACQUES CHABRIER**, president of Pathe Cinema's U. S. subsidiary, and **MRS. CHABRIER** are among passengers who will arrive here today on the *SS Queen Elizabeth*.

MITCHELL WOLFSON, Wometco Theatre executive, and his wife and their two children, will return to Miami tomorrow from Montego Bay, Jamaica, via Pan American World Airways Clipper following a trip to Latin America.

RUBE JOINER, former Warner booker in Atlanta, has become Republic sales representatives in that city. **W. G. BAYNARD** replaces him at Warner.

JOSEPH BERNHARD, president of Film Classics and Cinecolor, will leave New York today by plane for Hollywood.

HERMAN RIFKIN, Allied Artists and Mongram franchise holder for the New England states, is in Hollywood from Boston.

JACK STEVENSON is the new salesman at Paramount in San Francisco, succeeding **GIL SESSLER**, who is leaving for Salt Lake City.

MORRIS ROSENTHAL, manager of Loew's Poli in New Haven, and **MRS. ROSENTHAL** are vacationing at Westbrook, Conn.

HERMAN RIPPS, M-G-M assistant Eastern sales manager, is due here today from Albany, N. Y.

WILLIAM BENDIX is due here by plane today from the Coast to attend the funeral of **BABE RUTH**.

LOUIS J. KAUFMAN, Warner theatre department executive, left here last night for Pittsburgh.

GEORGE BLOCH-SIMON, head of the Publicolor Co., producer of short subjects, is here from Paris.

JAMES STEWART and **WARD BOND** are in Detroit from Hollywood.

Modesto Tax Is Legal

SACRAMENTO, Cal., Aug. 18.—The Court of Appeals here has upheld the Stanislaus Superior Court ruling that Modesto's city tax on amusement admissions is legal. A court action had been filed by Redwood Theatres, Inc., to seek an injunction to prevent the collection of a three-cent per ticket tax, on the grounds that the tax was discriminatory, unreasonable and unconstitutional. Redwood Theatres operates four houses in Modesto.

E-L's 'Triumph' Bows At Reading Fete

READING, Pa., Aug. 18.—Eagle-Lion's "Hollow Triumph" grossed \$2,100 at its world premiere today, breaking all opening day records at the Astor Theatre here for the past three years, company spokesmen reported. Held as a highlight of this city's bi-centennial celebration, the premiere was touched off by a proclamation by Mayor John F. Davis declaring this week "Hollow Triumph Week" in Reading. Paul Henreid, the pictures' star-producer, actress Audrey Long and comedian Benny Rubin were among a contingent which made "in-person" appearances.

Local exploitation set by the staff of E-L advertising-publicity vice-president Max E. Youngstein in collaboration with Astor Theatre manager Lester Stallman included elaborate theatre-front displays, large-scale distribution of printed material, "lucky number" contests, etc. Radio spot announcements heralded the premiere for three days prior to the opening. Representing the company at the event were Milton E. Cohen, Eastern division sales manager, and Jerry Pickman, assistant director of advertising-publicity-exploitation.

Gehring to Address Chicago Luncheon

CHICAGO, Aug. 18.—Twentieth Century-Fox general sales manager William Gehring will be the principal speaker at the Will Rogers Memorial Hospital drive luncheon to be held here on Aug. 23 at the Warner recreation room. Attending will be branch managers, sales heads and exchange employees, headed by Harold Stevens, Paramount manager.

Cancel New Jersey Allied Outing

Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey has cancelled its summer outing scheduled for next Tuesday in deference to the Will Rogers Memorial luncheon which will be held on that day in New York, Edward Lachman, president, has announced.

United Overruled In Detroit Video Plea

WASHINGTON, Aug. 18.—The Federal Communications Commission today turned down—again and for the last time—a petition of United Detroit Theatre Corp. against giving King Trendle Broadcasting Corp. additional time to complete its Detroit television station.

At the same time, the FCC gave Paramount an additional 20 days, until Sept. 7, to file its proposed findings in connection with the recently-concluded hearings on applications for San Francisco television stations.

Wanger Signs Garbo

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 18.—Walter Wanger has signed Greta Garbo for a picture to be made abroad, principally in Paris and Rome, it was announced today. To go into production next spring, the film, title and subject matter of which are undisclosed, will be her first in seven years. Releasing arrangements have not been set.

N. Y. Clearance

(Continued from page 1)

changes being made, implying that reduced clearances would command higher rentals from the houses benefiting and would make possible faster product play-off in the Metropolitan area.

Inspired by Cohen Settlement

The Metropolitan clearance situation reportedly was stirred into life by the recent settlement of the anti-trust suit brought here by Max A. Cohen against 20th Century-Fox, Warners and RKO Radio. Under the settlement Cohen's New Amsterdam Theatre plays day-and-date with the RKO Palace and clearance formerly held by RKO 23rd Street also was eliminated.

With that as a precedent, other circuits are said to have insisted that a like clearance principle be applied to their situations. If they are successful in their demands, indications are that still others, farther down the line, will eventually move for corresponding adjustments.

Sales Officials Are 'Sympathetic'

Not only are some distribution officials sympathetic to the present demands for the reasons given but others are giving serious consideration to them because of the explicit denunciation of clearance unreasonable either to time or area contained in the U. S. Supreme Court decision in the Paramount case. The decision places the burden of proof of reasonableness of existing clearances on distributors and many prefer clearance adjustments when complaints are made to defending clearances about which there may be some question.

Situations in which adjustments are being sought, in addition to the Bronx and Brooklyn, include Bronxville, Portchester and Ossining, Glen Cove, Lynbrook and Great Neck.

Three NCA Meetings

(Continued from page 1)

the consent decree, as patterned by the meetings last week at Fargo and Devils Lake, N. D.

In announcing the new slate of meetings, Kane warned pending tax legislation will require a solid front of exhibitor opposition "if we are to escape being taxed out of business." He pointed to the program adopted by the League of Minnesota Municipalities at its recent convention at Faribault, Minn., approving legislation to give municipalities the right to impose the Federal admission tax if Congress should end the tax, and enabling legislation to permit increased admission taxation in larger cities without a referendum.

Video 'Clinic' Set Up

J. A. Maurer, president of J. A. Maurer, Inc., and vice-president of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers, has been appointed head of the National Television Film Council "production clinic" by Jack Glenn, chairman of the NTFC production committee. The "clinic" will handle production problems arising from films for television, according to Glenn.

Psychologists See, Analyze 'Night' Here

Some 125 scientists, lawyers, industrialists, psychiatrists, doctors, psychologists and others, including Paramount executives, were guests last night at a dinner in the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel here in conjunction with a pre-release screening of Paramount's "Night Has a Thousand Eyes." The dinner was arranged by John W. Darr, president of the Institute of Public Relations, and addressed by Dr. J. B. Rhine, D. University psychologist, who discussed the film's story.

Among those invited were Herbert Bayard Swope, Mark Woods, Barney Balaban, Y. Frank Freeman, Paul Raibourn, Charles Marcus, Messmore Kendall, Charles Reagan, Ben Washer, Stanley Shuford, Mort Nathanson, John Krimsky, Francis Hackett, Lawrence Spivak, Gifford A. Cochran, and others.

Judge Cox Is Named To Para. Case Court

Judge Alfred C. Cox of U. S. District Court here has been named by Judge Learned Hand, senior justice of the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals here, as the third judge for the expediting court which will hear future proceedings in the Government's anti-trust suit against the industry when they are resumed Oct. 13.

Judge Cox is not without knowledge of the industry, having presided throughout the Paramount reorganization proceedings, 1932-1935. He succeeds the late Judge John Bright in the anti-trust case proceedings. Other members of the court are Circuit Judge Augustus Hand and District Judge Henry W. Goddard.

E. H. Amet Services

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 18.—Funeral services were held today at Redondo Beach for Edwin Hill Amet, 88, who succumbed to a heart attack at his home there Monday. A pioneer of the industry, Amet invented the Magnagraph, a forerunner of the modern motion picture camera. The widow and two daughters survive.



Ontario Blackout Will Start Sept. 15

TORONTO, Aug. 18.—The promised blackout in Ontario, scheduled to start on Sept. 15 to undertake power economy, will be longer but more moderate than the dimout of last winter, it is indicated by the Ontario Hydro-Electric Commission.

Because of protests against the ban on advertising illumination last winter, the commission promises to allow a main use of electricity for window theatre-front displays providing overall consumption is reduced by savings on interior lighting. Last season the lighting restrictions were in effect from November to April.

Anti-UK Film Drive

(Continued from page 1)

in releasing Rank films of lesser stature here.

The Charles Dickens story, previously scheduled for release this month, was the only Rank film in E-L's new season's batch for which a national release was set. It is likely now that some of the "lesser" Rank imports will precede it from E-L.

"Why Single Out Films?"

"Why," Heineman asked rhetorically, "don't the boycotters picket department stores that sell British goods, merchants who sell British whiskeys, clothiers who sell British-made clothes? Why do they single out British motion pictures?" He said that in his opinion the boycott organization, The Sons of Liberty, a non-sectarian group opposed to the British Palestine policy and "British imperialism in any form," is "not an authorized group," although he admitted it has made its weight felt among many New York exhibitors. Heineman said he has not heard of any similar boycotts taking place in other U. S. cities, and explained that the company is holding "Oliver Twist" from national release because of the New York boycott. The company, he said, would not want to release the picture elsewhere and have it come to New York later as an "old picture."

U-I to Observe on 'Hamlet'

Universal-International, which also releases Rank pictures in the U. S., is reportedly going to "wait and see what happens to 'Hamlet'" in connection with the boycott before it gives any consideration to "holding back" on Rank releases.

UK Quota Action

(Continued from page 1)

sistence that English exhibitors would not be given American films to be played with British-made product on double bills. Thus the British theatreman, in meeting the quota requirements of giving 45 per cent of his playing time to British pictures, would have only other British product for his second feature. The idea is to emphasize the importance of American films to British exhibition.

New FP-C Theatre

TORONTO, Aug. 18.—Twentieth Century Theatres, affiliated with Famous Players-Canadian, is rushing the completion of its Downtown Theatre at Yonge Street and Dundas Square, only 50 yards from the big Famous Players' Imperial and the independent Biltmore. The latter was opened by Ben Okun and associates only a few months ago.

Reviews

"One Touch of Venus"

(Universal-International)

PRODUCER Lester Cowan's screen version of the Elia Kazan-S. J. Perelman-Ogden Nash Broadway musical-comedy fantasy of a few seasons back is a light, airy confection, brightly packaged and earmarked for a gratifying grossing career beginning with the deluxe houses. Strong on marquee talent—Robert Walker, Ava Gardner, Dick Haymes, Eve Arden, Olga San Juan, Tom Conway—"One Touch of Venus" is richly whimsical. However, its stature as sophisticated comedy could have been of larger dimensions, it seems, if its writing, direction and acting (with the notable exception of Haymes') were a little more effortless. This slight failing is evident mainly in the timing given to gags and witticisms. But the laughs are hardly less big.

Walker plays the young confused department store aide who plants a kiss on the lips of the statue of the famed Anatolian Venus, an acquisition of store-owner Conway, and thereby brings her to life in the form of an eye-filling, temperature-raising Ava Gardner. Disappearance of the statue puts a few vaguely competent detectives in constant pursuit of Walker for 24 hours, and the persistent amorosness of Miss Gardner toward the young man keeps him in constant hot water as far as his girl friend, Miss San Juan, is concerned.

Haymes, Walker's pal, is occupied constantly trying to be just that, but finds it a hard job as romance kindles between him and Olga. Supporting the proceedings with characteristic competence, Miss Arden assuages her despair at finding her love for boss Conway unreturned by taking refuge in a laugh-provoking array of wise-cracks and Conway gets his ego burned when he finds it impossible to lure Miss Gardner away from Walker, who ultimately goes overboard for the live "goddess." But, her 24 hours up, Miss Gardner is compelled to return to her pedestal, leaving Walker a pretty sad boy—until he finds a new store employee is the image of the goddess with whom he had been cavorting.

The picture's song sequences are solid entertainment. Customers will certainly leave the theatre whistling or humming "That's Him," "Speak Low" and "Don't Look Now, But My Heart Is Showing." The play was suggested by the novel, "The Tinted Venus," and the screenplay was authored by Harry Kurnitz and Frank Tashlin. William A. Seiter directed.

Running time, 81½ minutes. Adult audience classification. For September release.

CHARLES L. FRANKE

"Urubu"

(UA-World Adventure Pictures)

EXHIBITORS who are looking for a film easy to exploit will find it in "Urubu," a record of Brazilian jungle adventure that follows the pattern long established for pictures of this genre. All the melodramatics, all the tricks designed to catch interest and stir excitement are in evidence in a picture dealing with the experiences of the producers, George Breakston and Yorke Copen, war veterans, on an expedition into forbidden areas of Brazil. While the film lays claim to being authentic, it is hard to escape the impression that the more harrowing sequences have been staged, although there can be no denying the fact that these scenes of jungle thrills carry enough vividness to arouse adventure hounds, especially those who do not propound too many questions. Patrons who care little where fact ends and fiction begins should find a fair amount of entertainment in "Urubu."

The story purports to be the search for a white leader of the hair-raising Urubu Indians of Brazil. Our heroes undergo grave dangers and hardships in their quest. On the side they occupy themselves with the rescue of a white girl carried away by the Urubus.

Running time, 65 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Aug. 13.

P.E.L.

AFM Talks

(Continued from page 1)

work. Demands were not formally placed before the producer spokesmen at the initial conference. Their presentation was deferred to the next meeting of the negotiators, which is scheduled for tomorrow afternoon.

Wage increases to meet the jump in the cost of living and the question of additional compensation for musicians working on pictures made for theatre exhibition which may find their way into television channels are among other matters expected to be brought up by the AFM negotiating committee.

The number of musicians covered by the present contract, which runs out on Aug. 31, totals some 300. Musicians are now getting \$13.30 per hour for a minimum of call of three hours. They are guaranteed 520 hours of work per year.

Present from the home offices at the opening of negotiations with the AFM

were Spyros P. Skouras and W. C. Michel, representing 20th-Fox; Nicholas M. Schenck and Joseph R. Vogel, M-G-M; Barney Balaban, Paramount; Albert Warner, Warner Brothers; J. J. O'Connor, Universal-International; Joseph E. McMahon, Republic; A. Schneider, Columbia.

Studio spokesmen present were Y. Frank Freeman and Lou Lipstone, Paramount; Charles Boren, vice-president of the Association of Motion Picture Producers in charge of industrial relations; Al Chamie, his assistant; Robert Newman, Republic; Fred S. Meyer, 20th-Fox; A. H. McCausland, Universal-International; Richard J. Powers, M-G-M; Carroll Sax, Warner.

Petrillo headed the AFM negotiators. Other AFM representatives were Joseph N. Weber, honorary president; C. L. Bagley, vice-president; J. W. Parks, Oscar F. Hild, Herman D. Kenin, George V. Clancy and Walter M. Murdock, all five members of the international executive board, and C. W. Gillette, studio representative.

Key City

Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY correspondents. Estimates omit admission tax.

TORONTO

Six Toronto theatres had holdovers during the week as business took a mid-August brace and more popular pictures hit screens. The season's recordholder run of "The Mating of Millie," was in its 11th week at the Biltmore. Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 19:

ABBOTT AND COSTELLO MEET FRANKENSTEIN (U-I)—UPTOWN (2,761) (20c-36c-50c-66c-90c) 6 days, 3rd week. Gross: \$8,600. (Average: \$10,600)
EASTER PARADE (M-G-M)—LOEW'S (2,074) (20c-36c-50c-66c-78c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: \$14,200. (Average: \$14,200)
A FOREIGN AFFAIR (Para.)—EGLINTON (1,086) (20c-36c-50c-66c) 6 days. Gross: \$6,400. (Average: \$6,900)
A FOREIGN AFFAIR (Para.)—TIVOLI (1,434) (20c-36c-50c-66c) 6 days. Gross: \$7,200. (Average: \$8,200)
KEY LARGO (WB)—IMPERIAL (3,343) (20c-36c-50c-66c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: \$14,100. (Average: \$14,600)
THE MATING OF MILLIE (Col.)—BILTMORE (938) (15c-30c-36c-55c) 6 days, 11th week. Gross: \$4,700. (Average: \$6,000)
MELODY TIME (RKO Radio)—SHEA'S (2,480) (20c-36c-50c-66c-90c) 6 days. Gross: \$16,700. (Average: \$14,700)
MICKEY (Int'l.)—NORTOWN (950) (20c-42c-60c) 6 days. Gross: \$4,500. (Average: \$5,000)
MICKEY (Int'l.)—VICTORIA (1,240) (20c-36c-42c-60c) 6 days. Gross: \$5,500. (Average: \$5,800)
THE WHITE UNICORN (E-L)—DANFORTH (1,400) (20c-36c-50c-60c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: \$6,000. (Average: \$6,500)
THE WHITE UNICORN (E-L)—FAIRLAWN (1,195) (20c-36c-50c-55c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: \$5,000. (Average: \$5,500)

1,400-Car Drive-in To Open on Sept. 7

CHICAGO, Aug. 18.—An \$850,000 drive-in with a capacity of 1,400 cars as part of a \$3,500,000 amusement and recreational center, is scheduled to open in this area on Sept. 7. The drive-in, to be known as the Starlite, will be operated by a group which includes Edward Silverman, president of Essaness Theatres; Frank W. Schaffer, who will operate the concession; Arthur Rubloff, realtor, and Edward A. Cooper, attorney, who is president of Starlite Drive-in, Inc.

Covering an 80-acre tract, the center is believed to be the largest of its kind in the country.

O'Brien at IATSE

(Continued from page 1)

council wherein members of all industry levels in Britain and America will be able to examine mutual problems.

The film industries of both countries must get together as equal partners, he said, to preserve liberty and justice.

IATSE international president Richard F. Walsh resumed today for the convention his account of the Hollywood jurisdictional dispute at the point where he left off at the previous convention, and said he will bring the story up-to-date with a third report at the next convention.

Actor Edward Arnold will address the convention tomorrow. Thereafter, resolutions and elections will conclude convention business.

NOTHING EVER HELD YOU LIKE ALFRED HITCHCOCK'S **ROPE** TECHNICOLOR

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THE TRADE SHOW WILL BE OPEN
AUGUST 30

Warner Bros. Presents
JAMES STEWART
IN
ALFRED HITCHCOCK'S
ROPE

WITH **JOHN DALL · FARLEY GRANGER · SIR CEDRIC HARDWICKE · CONSTANCE BREWSTER**
SCREEN PLAY BY ARTHUR LAURENTS FROM THE PLAY BY PATRICK HAMILTON
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY JOSEPH VALENTINE, A.S.C.
A TRANSATLANTIC PRODUCTION

CITY	PLACE OF SHOWING	ADDRESS	TIME
ALBANY	Warner Screening Room	79 N. Pearl St.	12:30 P.M.
ATLANTA	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	197 Walton St. N.W.	2:30 P.M.
BOSTON	RKO Screening Room	122 Arlington St.	2:30 P.M.
BUFFALO	Paramount Sc. Room	464 Franklin Street	2:00 P.M.
CHARLOTTE	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	308 S. Church St.	10:00 A.M. 1:30 P.M.
CHICAGO	Warner Screening Room	1307 So. Wabash Ave.	
CINCINNATI	RKO Screening Room	Palace Th. Bldg. E. 6th	2:00 P.M.
CLEVELAND	Warner Screening Room	2300 Payne Ave.	2:00 P.M.
DALLAS	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	1803 Wood St.	2:00 P.M.

EVER HELD YOU
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PE ROPE

NOTHING EVER HELD YOU
LIKE ALFRED HITCHCOCK'S
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OR BY
NICOLOR

AND COLIER JOAN CHANDLER

ITIC PICTURE



EVER HELD YOU
ED HITCHCOCK'S
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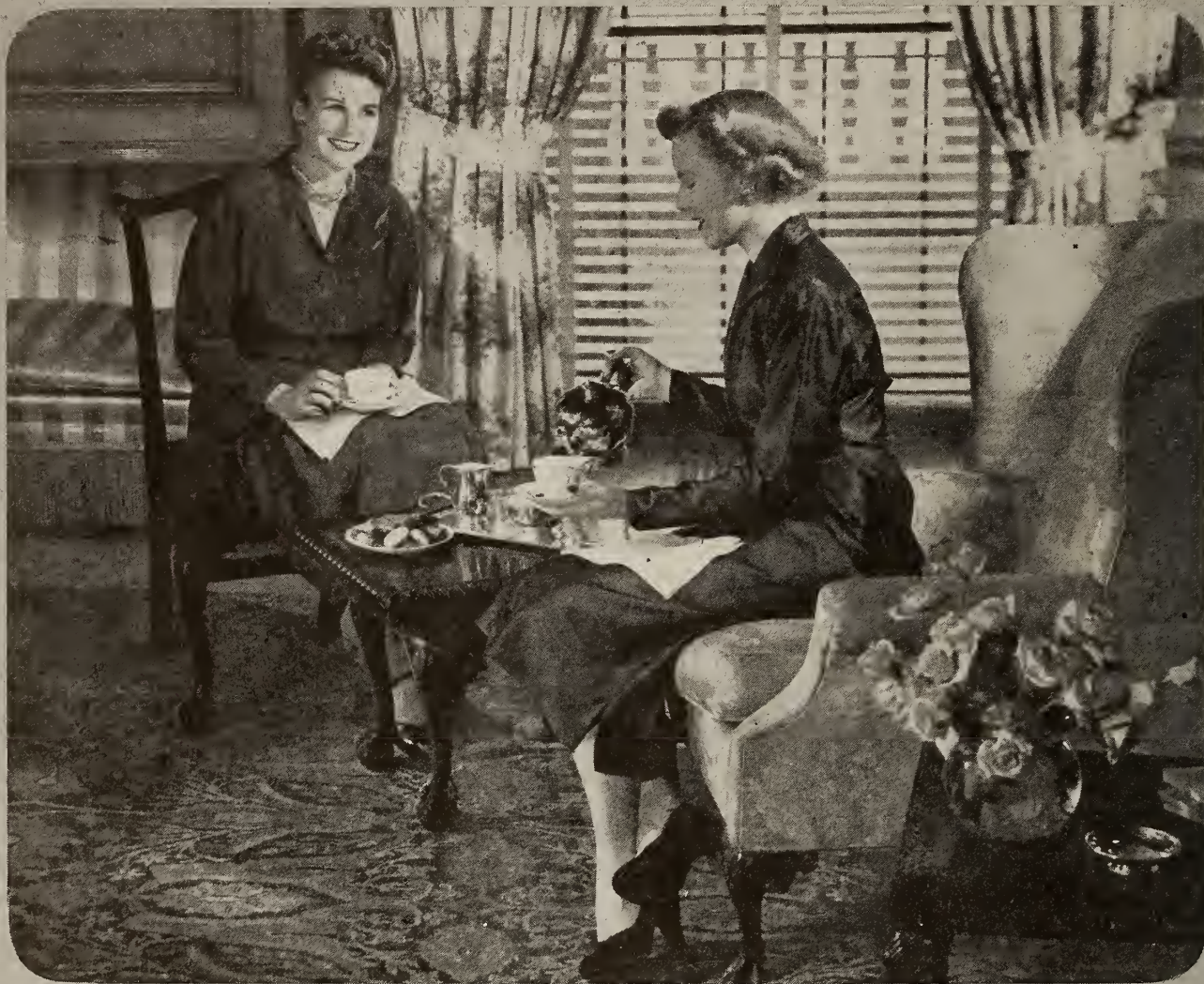
NOTHING EVER HELD
LIKE ALFRED HITCHCOCK'S

ROPE



CITY	PLACE OF SHOWING	ADDRESS	TIME
DENVER	Paramount Sc. Room	2100 Stout St.	2:00 P.M.
DES MOINES	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	1300 High St.	12:45 P.M.
DETROIT	Film Exchange Bldg.	2310 Cass Ave.	2:00 P.M.
INDIANAPOLIS	Universal Sc. Room	517 No. Illinois St.	1:00 P.M.
KANSAS CITY	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	1720 Wyandotte St.	1:30 P.M.
LOS ANGELES	Warner Screening Room	2025 S. Vermont Ave.	2:00 P.M.
MEMPHIS	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	151 Vance Ave.	10:00 A.M.
MILWAUKEE	Warner Th. Sc. Rm.	212 W. Wisconsin Ave.	2:00 P.M.
MINNEAPOLIS	Warner Screening Room	1000 Currie Ave.	2:00 P.M.
NEW HAVEN	Warner Th. Proj. Rm.	70 College St.	2:00 P.M.
NEW ORLEANS	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	200 S. Liberty St.	1:30 P.M.

CITY	PLACE OF SHOWING	ADDRESS	TIME
NEW YORK	Home Office	321 W. 44th St.	2:30 P.M.
OKLAHOMA	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	10 North Lee St.	1:30 P.M.
OMAHA	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	1502 Davenport St.	1:00 P.M.
PHILADELPHIA	Warner Screening Room	230 No. 13th St.	2:30 P.M.
PITTSBURGH	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	1715 Blvd. of Allies	1:30 P.M.
PORTLAND	Jewel Box Sc. Room	1947 N.W. Kearney St.	2:00 P.M.
SALT LAKE	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	216 East 1st South	2:00 P.M.
SAN FRANCISCO	Paramount Sc. Room	205 Golden Gate Ave.	1:30 P.M.
SEATTLE	Jewel Box Sc. Room	2318 Second Ave.	10:30 A.M.
ST. LOUIS	S'renco Sc. Room	3143 Olive St.	1:00 P.M.
WASHINGTON	Warner Th. Bldg.	13th & E. Sts. N.W.	10:30 A.M.



Artist with chintz and Chippendale...

WHEN this room says "home, sweet home" to movie-goers, it also speaks in praise of its creator—the man who dressed the set so understandingly.

For his was the feeling for fabrics and furniture that gave the set its "lived-in" look... that made it so truly convey time and place, and catch the spirit of the actors' roles.

Whether an interior is modern or medieval, penthouse or "poverty row," the set dresser's artistry makes its atmosphere authentic.

An important contribution, this—and one that is reflected to the full by faithful photographic reproduction... unfailingly provided by Eastman's famous family of motion picture films.

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PICTURE DAILY

FIRST
IN
FILM
NEWS

64. NO. 36

NEW YORK, U. S. A., FRIDAY, AUGUST 20, 1948

TEN CENTS

'IA' Given an Arbitration Plan Proposal

Walsh and All IATSE Officers Are Reelected

CLEVELAND, Aug. 19.—The 29th biennial convention of the IATSE, in session here since last Monday, today was pondering a proposal made by Hollywood actor Edward Arnold, for the establishment of an industry-wide arbitration board for the use of all unions, crafts and guilds to settle jurisdictional disputes.



Richard F. Walsh

Arnold, who is president of the Motion Picture Relief Fund and has long been active in talent guild affairs, speaking as an invited guest, predicted that he, old-line "IA" delegates and the Screen

(Continued on page 3)

Crouch Named to WB Circuit Post in D. C.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 19.—George A. Crouch has been appointed zone manager for Warner theatres in the Washington territory to succeed the late John J. Payette, it was announced today by Harry Kalmine, president and general manager of the Warner circuit, following a meeting of home office and Washington theatre executives.

Crouch, who is 55, will supervise 45 theatres in the District of Columbia, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia and Pennsylvania. He was chief book-er and assistant to Payette.

Single Convention For 20th Sept. 8-11

Disregarding an earlier plan to hold four regional meetings, 20th Century-Fox will hold a national sales convention at the Hotel Drake, Chicago, Sept. 8-11, for discussions on product and policy for 1948-49. Andy W. Smith, Jr., general sales manager, will

(Continued on page 6)

SIMPP and AFM to Dicker Separately

Negotiations for a new contract for instrumentalists engaged in independent production will be conducted separately with the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers by the American Federation of Musicians. Talks with representatives of the SIMPP will take place following the completion of negotiations between the AFM and major producers which are under way here.

Comedies Least Hit By Gross Drop: U-I

A study of current box-office returns of top pictures in key cities indicates that comedies have been least affected by the downward trend in theatre grosses, Universal-International's home office reports, and accordingly, U-I will place its greatest selling emphasis on this type of production during coming months. This decision was made following discussions at the recent conferences of company executives with studio heads on the Coast, William A. Scully, U-I distribution vice-president disclosed yesterday.

Scully cited six feature comedies coming up for extra sales effort: "Family Honeymoon," "You Gotta Stay Happy," "One Touch of Venus," "For the Love of Mary," "The Countess of Monte Cristo" and "Mexican Hayride."

FCC to Set New Rules On Video Station Limit

WASHINGTON, Aug. 19.—The Federal Communications Commission today announced it will clarify its rules on limiting the number of television stations which any one firm can control or own an interest in.

At present, the FCC limits any one firm or person to five stations. It has never made clear how much of an interest the firm can have in any one station before it counts against the limit—that is, whether it can control four, have a large but not controlling interest in a fifth, and a very small interest in a sixth.

Paramount, which owns considerable but not controlling interests in Du Mont, and other film companies in the television field are especially

(Continued on page 6)

20th Quarter Profit Rises \$1,040,975

Twentieth Century-Fox and subsidiaries, including National Theatres and Roxy Theatre, Inc., reported a consolidated net profit of \$3,967,817 after all charges for the second quarter ended June 26, an increase of \$1,040,975 over the \$2,926,842 reported for the same quarter of last year.

After deducting dividends on prior preferred and convertible preferred stock, this year's second quarter figure amounted to \$1.37 per share of common stock while 1947's was equal to 84 cents per share. Profit for the first quarter of this year was \$2,926,842.

For the half-year ended June 26, the company reports a consolidated net profit of \$6,894,659. After deducting dividends on prior preferred and

(Continued on page 6)

Mono. Halts Plan to Seek 'Loop' Extension

CHICAGO, Aug. 19.—Monogram is understood to have dropped its plans to ask for an extension on Allied Artists' "The Babe Ruth Story" when it opens at the Balaban and Katz State Lake on Sept. 2. Although reasons were not disclosed, one of the motivating factors is believed to be the fact that Judge Michael Igoe is on vacation.

Under the Jackson Park decree, films of defendant distributors are limited to a two-week "Loop" run.

Universal to Drop Winter Garden Here

Universal-International will discontinue operation of the Winter Garden, New York first-run, upon expiration of the lease on Sept. 30. The company acquired the house upon the suggestion of J. Arthur Rank three years ago and has been paying \$1,000 per day rental since to Shubert theatrical interests, the owners. United Artists originally had taken the lease with the intention of showing "Anthony and Cleopatra" and "Henry V," but when United Artists decided to book the two pictures elsewhere in New York, Rank urged Universal to liquidate the lease.

SIMPP Splits With MPAA on British Policy

Mulvey Not Going to London with Johnston

The Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers and the Motion Picture Association of America are at odds on policies and methods to be followed in countering the new British 45 per cent film quota with the result that the SIMPP yesterday withdrew from joint action with MPAA on the subject.

As a result, James A. Mulvey, president of Samuel Goldwyn Productions and SIMPP's representative in the Anglo-American trade negotiations, has canceled his projected trip to London. Mulvey was to have left here by plane today, accompanying Eric A. Johnston, MPAA president.

Johnston had not changed his plans up to a late hour yesterday. He will

(Continued on page 6)

Frank McCarthy to Quit MPAA Jan. 1

Frank McCarthy, Continental manager of the Motion Picture Association of America, has submitted his resignation, to become effective on Jan. 1, 1949, according to top industry sources here. A previous report of McCarthy's resignation had been denied earlier in the week by an executive of the MPAA's international department here through the organization's press department.

McCarthy is said to be slated for an executive position with 20th Century-Fox on the Coast. He now is at his Paris headquarters, it is understood.

Peron Fines 8 US Firms \$450,000

BUENOS AIRES, Aug. 19.—Eight American distribution companies in Argentina were fined more than 2,175,000 pesos (\$450,000) in a series of executive decrees handed down by President Juan Peron and Ramon Cereijo, Minister of Finance, who alleged the companies violated old exchange laws. The companies were charged with having declared only the

(Continued on page 6)

Personal Mention

WILLIAM SAAL, Republic studio executive, returned here yesterday from Europe on the *SS America*.

LEONARD J. HIRSCH, home office assistant to M-G-M Southern sales manager RUDY BERGER, will return to New York over the weekend from a Beechaven, N. J., vacation.

PETER COLLI, Warner manager of the Caribbean division, and MICHAEL SOKOL, manager in Mexico, have returned to their respective headquarters from conferences in New York.

MARIE ANTOINETTE RAFTERY, daughter of EDWARD C. RAFTERY, will be married tomorrow to MATTHEW LEON CONEYS at Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Church in Forest Hills, N. Y.

HERMAN RIPPS, field assistant to M-G-M Eastern sales manager JOHN P. BYRNE, is due back in Albany today from here.

CHARLES SIMONELLI, Universal-International Eastern exploitation manager, is in Pittsburgh from New York.

ARTHUR KELLY, executive vice-president of United Artists, is scheduled to leave New York for London over the weekend.

RUSSELL STEWART of M-G-M's home office publicity staff will return to New York today from Washington.

MILTON HARRIS, sales promotion manager of Filmack's New York plant, has resigned.

PHIL COWAN, United Artists home office trade press contact, will start a two-week vacation tomorrow.

Tokyo Communists Seize Film Studios

Communist-led sitdown strikers agreed to leave the grounds of Toho studios after United States tanks and troops were called out in the first serious labor demonstration since Gen. Douglas MacArthur banned strikes, according to press dispatches from Tokyo.

The strike began Aug. 9 when discharged workers returned to the studio, seized control of the main offices and began a sitdown on properties near the gates.

Picket 'Hamlet'

BOSTON, Aug. 19.—The British-made "Hamlet" was picketed at its opening last night at the Astor here by New York members of the Sons of Liberty which is promoting a boycott of all British products.

UA Board Meeting

United Artists' board of directors met here yesterday for a routine session.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

IF anyone is surprised, he should not be at the move of Fox Metropolitan, Skouras Theatres and Century Circuit to end clearances now held by Loew and RKO zonal first-runs in areas where the three demanding circuits also operate. The influences behind the decision which found film buyers and lawyers calling on distributors last week were two:

1.—The clear-cut assault on unreasonable clearances in the U. S. Supreme Court decision in the Paramount, *et al* case. Since it is up to the distributor to prove existing clearances are reasonable, the tendency is to adjust troublesome or disputed situations before compulsion through legal channels compels it. While this voluntary procedure is in effect in a number of exchange territories, it has not been in Metropolitan New York.

2.—The anti-trust suit filed in May by Max Cohen of the Cinema Circuit against 20th-Fox and Warner on behalf of his New Amsterdam Theatre on West 42nd St. He sought \$1,800,000 in triple damages allegedly growing out of the refusal of the defendant distributors to allow the New Amsterdam to run day-and-date with the RKO circuit and, in particular, the Palace on Broadway which had swung from first to subsequent-runs, double feature. Cohen won at out-of-court settlement.

His legal course stemmed primarily from the Supreme Court's views so that Reasons 1 and 2 may be neatly combined into just one if anyone prefers. At the same time, it was inevitable that Cohen's victory could not pass unnoticed by other circuits here.

There seems to have been a quiet period following the settlement in the New Amsterdam case during which plans were being mulled. The outcome, and it is only the forerunner, is to be found in the move now inaugurated by Fox Metropolitan, Skouras and Century. We say this triumvirate comprises only the forerunner because again it is apparent that the theatres behind their theatres which are behind the Loew and RKO in every likelihood will seek to move closer to release if these three circuits gain their point.

Thus, it is within the realms of reasonable probability that the

exceedingly well-entrenched system of clearance so long established in the greater city will be stepped up.

This would mean product will filter through the various layers of theatres faster, thereby reaching the public when it is fresher.

It would place independent theatre operation on a basis of parity, or practically so, with the two major New York circuits, which will not like it.

It would mean higher rentals for distributors who will like it.

But if the boys are not careful or reasonable, it may mean higher admissions, which the public not only will not like, but will not support.

That's quite a brass ring—"good for one free ride on the *Washington Merry-Go-Round*"—which Drew Pearson is handing Charlie Skouras in his syndicated column around the nation. In the form of a tribute to Skouras for his championship of "Youth Month" in September, Pearson is conveying to millions of his readers salient background information about Spyros and George, too.

On the anecdotal side, and perhaps new to you, as to us, is a bit of history about the early days in St. Louis where the three brothers got their start. "The bartender who employed Spyros," Pearson narrates, "made him recite 'The Star-Spangled Banner,' from beginning to end, every morning before he began work, which is probably more than most native-born Americans can do at any time. Spyros can still recite it, all the verses, and later gave the bartender an interest in the Shaw Theatre in St. Louis."

Universal, undeterred by sporadic boycotts against British films, is sticking to its course on "Hamlet." Already rolling on its first date at the Astor, Boston, the attraction is sold out eight weeks in advance. Boston critics, according to the Associated Press, employed such language as "a monumental achievement" and "the masterpiece of motion pictures."

Booked to open on Sept. 26 at the Park Avenue Theatre here in New York, the time has not yet arrived for newspaper advertising. Nevertheless, the house has chalked up over 600 telephone calls for tickets.

Variety May Operate Will Rogers Hospital

Action upon a recommendation that Variety Clubs International take over operation of the Will Rogers Hospital at Saranac Lake, N. Y., and underwrite a percentage of its operating costs along with the support of film companies, circuits and individual Variety units, will be taken at annual mid-year conference of Variety which will be held in Washington Sept. 16-19, Robert J. O'Donnell, international chief barker, announces.

The name of the hospital would be changed to Variety Club Sanitarium under the proposal.

Also to be acted upon is a recommendation by John H. Harris for the erection of a statue to the late Father Edward J. Flanagan in Boytown, Neb.

Mrs. Loomam to Venice

Mrs. Mary Loomam, chairman of the motion picture department of the International Federation of Catholic Alumnae, will leave New York on Sunday by plane for Venice to attend the International Film Conference Aug. 28-Sept. 1. Mrs. Loomam may be abroad for a month, visiting a daughter in Munich, and later visiting Rome.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center

"A DATE WITH JUDY"

Wallace BEERY • Jane POWELL
Elizabeth TAYLOR • Carmen MIRANDA
Xavier CUGAT • Robert STACK
A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

ALAN DONNA
LADD REED
In Paramount's

BEYOND GLORY

A Great Love Story
That Comes
Shining Through

in Person
MARTHA TILTON
and
JAN MURRAY
RAY CARROLL
RAY EBERLE
Silly Musical

PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

ROY DEL RUTH'S **"THE BABE RUTH STORY"**

WILLIAM CLARE
BENDIX-TREVOR
Production
CHARLES BICKFORD

COOL
ASTOR B'WAY AT 45TH ST. Cont. Performances • Pop Price

Cornel WILDE Linda DARNELL Anne BAXTER Kirk DOUGLAS

"THE WALLS of JERICHO"

A 20th Century-Fox Picture

ON VARIETY STAGE—DICK HAYMES
ON ICE STAGE—CAROL LYNN
ARNOLD SHODA • FRITZ DIETL

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House Group Will Investigate AGVA

WASHINGTON, Aug. 19.—A House labor sub-committee will hold hearings for three days starting Monday in Philadelphia on a complaint against the American Guild of Variety Artists and the "Four A's."

Dick Jones, former head of the Philadelphia AGVA local, has produced a recent decision of the AGVA convention abolishing locals, it was understood, and the House group will decide if the complaint is valid and whether any amendment of the labor law is needed to handle such situations. Top officials of AGVA and the "Four A's" have been subpoenaed to testify.

Rep. Kearns heads the sub-committee. The hearings have no connection whatsoever with Kearns' Hollywood labor investigations.

Arbitration Proposal

(Continued from page 1)

Actors Guild would be the first to approve such a plan.

He termed motion picture industry craft-overlapping—which is in wide existence—stupid and a waste of time.

The convention today reelected Richard F. Walsh president for his fourth consecutive two-year term. Also reelected unanimously was Walsh's entire slate of International officers. James B. McNabb of Seattle Local No. 154 replaces Eugene Atkinson as delegate to the AFL, and Oliver M. Lynn of Edmonton, Alberta, replaces D. B. McKenzie as Dominion delegate.

Reelected with Walsh were: William P. Raoul, general secretary-treasurer; Thomas J. Shea, assistant international president, and Harland Holmden, William P. Covert, Floyd M. Billingsley, James J. Brennan, Roger M. Kennedy, Felix D. Snow, Carl G. Cooper, William C. Barrett and Miss Louise Wright, reelected first to ninth vice-presidents, respectively. Reelected trustees were: R. E. Morris, William C. Scanlan and George W. Brayfield.

Realart Adds 2 Salesmen

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 19. — Jack Klepper, former sales representative for Screen Classics in the Northwest, is now handling Realart sales for Washington and Oregon, Harry Price, Realart franchise holder, announces. Jack Bettencourt will handle Northern California.

Review

"An Act of Murder"

(Universal-International)

STARRING Fredric March, Edmond O'Brien and Florence Eldridge, and superbly presented, "An Act of Murder" has only one disadvantage, a weightiness of theme that might run counter to the public's preference, at the moment, for what is commonly called "escapism."

The picture deserves maximum sales effort all down the line. The story is rich in substance and genuineness, and is devoid of theatrical devices. It concerns a Pennsylvania county judge, played by March, whose fairness is slightly shaded by his rigid adherence to the letter of the law without regard for natural emotions sometimes responsible for infractions of it.

March becomes a defendant in his own court. His wife, Miss Eldridge, in the throes of an agonizing illness, faces inescapable death. He succumbs to the idea of euthanasia, attempts her mercy death and his own suicide by crashing his automobile. He survives, she is found dead.

He pleads guilty to the mercy killing, asks to pay the full penalty. O'Brien, a young lawyer, represents him at the trial. An investigation shows that Miss Eldridge had died from a self-administered over-dose of sedatives. March is declared legally innocent, morally guilty, and is introduced to the logic of considering uncontrollable emotions that can motivate crime. Interwoven in the yarn is a slight romance involving O'Brien and March's daughter, Geraldine Brooks.

Director Michael Gordon has endowed the screenplay with an unhalting motion that is greatly responsible for its gripping interest. His was an expert job throughout. March's and Miss Eldridge's competence could not be overstressed, and supporting players are uniformly good, including Stanley Ridges, John McIntyre, Frederic Tozere, Will Wright, Virginia Brissac and Clarence Muse. Jerry Bresler produced. Michael Blankfort and Robert Thoren wrote the screenplay, from a novel, "The Mills of God," by Ernst Lothar.

Running time, 91 minutes. General audience classification. For September release.

GENE ARNEEL

Trumbo, Lawson Seek Colorfilm Corp. Files More Time for Appeal Bankruptcy Petition

WASHINGTON, Aug. 19.—Attorneys for Dalton Trumbo and John Howard Lawson, both of whom were convicted in District Court here for contempt of Congress, have asked for an extension until Sept. 30 to file their appeal briefs in the U. S. Court of Appeals. The briefs were due originally at the end of this month.

Granting of the extension motion would also defer until the end of October, instead of the end of September, the date for filing of the District Attorney's answer. The request for delay claimed that the record to be included in the briefs is voluminous, that the attorneys have been busy on other cases and that the matter at issue is one of "tremendous importance never before presented in an appellate court."

Film Golf Date Changed

DENVER, Aug. 19.—Date of the annual picnic and golf tournament of the Rocky Mountain Screen Club, to be held at Park Hill Country Club, has been changed to next Tuesday.

Colorfilm Corp. Files Bankruptcy Petition

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 19.—Listing assets of \$678,573 and liabilities of \$21,866, Hollywood Colorfilm Corp., Burbank, today filed a voluntary petition of bankruptcy. Receiver Walter C. Durst, who said the business would be put up for sale, explained the discrepancy between assets and liabilities on the ground that a contract to process a major Western for a ranking studio had created financial problems deemed insurmountable.

Loew May See Books In Percentage Suit

Granting a motion made by Loew's in its percentage action in U. S. District Court here against Jesse Stern, Abraham H. Levy and their circuit corporations, Federal Judge Sylvester J. Ryan yesterday directed the defendants to produce, and permit Loew's to inspect books, records and accounts for the period Dec., 1941, through Dec., 1947. Defendants' theatres involved are the Park West and Washington in Manhattan, and Howard in Brooklyn.

Actress Appeals to High Court on Pact

WASHINGTON, Aug. 19.—Joan Leslie today appealed to the Supreme Court a California Supreme Court decision upholding a Warner Brothers suit against her for breach of contract. The appeal maintained that the 1947 California law, which bars minors in the motion picture industry from disaffirming their contracts and which was the basis for the decision in favor of Warners, is unconstitutional.

Paula Seligman on Air

Paula Seligman, formerly with Republic and other film companies, will appear on station WEVD, New York, on Sunday to discuss the marketing of film scripts.

Foreign Markets a By-product: Freuler

"The foreign market for motion pictures should be and always should have been considered an order of by-product exploitation by the American industry," observed producer-distributor-exhibitor pioneer John R. Freuler of Milwaukee, visiting New York on business concerning his exhibition operations in Wisconsin.

"A structure has been built up, especially with reference to costs in production, which is unsound because it reaches out beyond the sound basis of the great market of the United States. That is big enough to support the American industry in a state of health."

"There has been uncertainty and all kinds of problems in the foreign market ever since there has been a foreign market. Its profits are always speculative," he added.

Freuler entered exhibition in 1905, and rose in production with the serials "Million Dollar Mystery," "Diamond from the Sky," and others. He was a founder and a president of Mutual Film Corp., and various independent production-distribution enterprises.

'U' Seeks Injunction On 16mm. Showings

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 19.—Universal is seeking a Federal Court injunction to prevent Donald Reed, 16mm. distributor who operates the Beverly Hills Motion Picture Club, from further handling 16mm. prints of 75 Universal features and to compel destruction of the prints. The suit also asks payment of damages based on Reed's proceeds from the films.

The complaint says Reed acquired the prints by an unknown means and that he operates the club on the basis of a \$25 monthly membership fee entitling members to four features plus short subjects per month. Federal Judge Ben Harrison signed an order for seizure of the prints to impound them pending a ruling on the injunction plea.

Reed asserted that he had acquired the prints from a well-known screen comedian to whom proceeds were to be paid for charitable uses. He added that he had not used the prints commercially.

US Board Sued on Parole Revocations

CHICAGO, Aug. 19.—For the first time in history, the U. S. Board of Paroles was sued for damages when attorney William Scott Stewart today filed a U. S. Federal Court suit here on a charge that the board's revocation of paroles to Louis Campagna, Charles Goie and Paul Ricca was illegal.

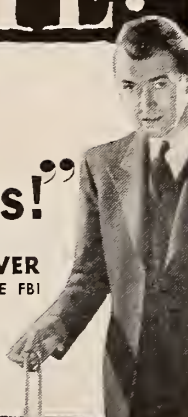
Campagna and Goie, who were paroled earlier this spring and later sent back to prison, were convicted four years ago of extorting \$1,000,000 from major Hollywood producers.

Damages sought were the lowest possible under the law—\$1. Back of the suit, according to Federal officials, is the second of a series of actions designed to free Campagna and Goie and to keep Ricca out of prison.

Equity to Meet Sept. 17

Actors' Equity will hold a quarterly meeting here on Sept. 17 at the Hotel Astor.

THE LATEST WORD ON **ROPE:**



"Leaves you breathless!"

— J. EDGAR HOOVER
CHIEF OF THE FBI

The picture that "Racked up
by far in one week since
grosses!"* Is ready for September

REGULAR FOREVER

Color by **TECHNICOLOR**

* *Reprinted from Variety, October, 1947!*

"FOREVER AMBER" • Color by TECHNICOLOR • Starring LINDA DARNELL • CORNEL WILDE • RICHARD GREENE and GEORGE SANDERS with GLENN LANGAN, RICHARD HAYDN, JESSICA TANDY, ANNE REVERE, John Russell, Jane Ball, Robert Coote, Leo G. Carroll, Natalie Draper, Margaret Wycherly, Alma Kruger, Edmond Breon, Alan Napier • Directed by OTTO PREMINGER • Produced by WILLIAM PERLBERG • From the Novel by KATHLEEN WINSOR • Screen Play by Philip Dunne and Ring Lardner, Jr. • Adaptation by Jerome Cady •

SEPTEMBER IS YOUTH MONTH — SALUTING YOUNG AMERICA!

the greatest amount of money
Variety began tabulating
per first-run dates first-time at

PRICES AMBER



September is *LUCKY* month from

20th
CENTURY-FOX

THE LUCK
OF THE IRISH

• THAT LADY
IN ERMINE
TECHNICOLOR

• THE WALLS
OF JERICHO

20th-Fox Profit

(Continued from page 1)

convertible preferred stocks, this amounted to \$2.37 per share on the 2,769,097 shares of common outstanding.

Consolidated net profit after all charges reported by the corporation for the comparable period of 1947 was \$8,401,778, which, after deducting preferred dividends amounted to \$2.91 a share.

A comparison of the first 26 weeks of 1948 with those of 1947 shows respective total gross incomes of \$90,216,305 and \$96,096,871, respectively. Amortization of film costs was \$26,026,229 this year and \$25,753,837 last; film distribution, theatre operations and administration expenses were \$44,172,178 and \$48,463,541; total expenses were \$77,749,112 and \$80,275,111. Provision for taxes for the 1948 half-year were \$4,900,000, against \$6,200,000 for the 1947 half.

20th Board Declares Dividends On Preferred and Common Shares

Board of directors of 20th-Fox yesterday declared the following quarterly cash dividends: \$1.12½ per share on prior preferred stock, payable Sept. 15 to stockholders of record on Sept. 1; 37½ cents per share on convertible preferred, payable Sept. 25 to holders of record on Sept. 3; 50 cents per share on common, payable Sept. 25 to holders of record on Sept. 3.

20th-Fox Meeting

(Continued from page 1)

preside and Spyros P. Skouras, company president, will address various sessions.

The convention will be attended by all U. S. branch managers, the company's five division managers and their divisional assistants, as well as corporate executives and domestic distribution department heads. Darryl F. Zanuck, vice-president in charge of production, now in Europe, is expected to attend.

Originally, it had been planned to hold regionals in New York, Dallas, Chicago and San Francisco. This plan was discarded in favor of a national convention in Chicago.

Canadian 20th-Fox managers will not participate in the Chicago meetings in view of their having held a divisional convention in Toronto several weeks ago.



Review

"The Loves of Carmen"

(Beckworth-Columbia)

REUNITED on the screen for the first time since their explosive teamwork in "Gilda," Rita Hayworth and Glenn Ford emerge again in "The Loves of Carmen" an equally volatile pair of cinematic lovers whose impact on the box-office should be a foregone conclusion. Produced in lavish Technicolor by The Beckworth Corporation, with producer-director Charles Vidor at the helm, this latest film version of Prosper Merimee's story about the beautiful, turbulent 19th Century Spanish gypsy maid provides Hayworth and Ford with a broad, demanding canvas for the measuring of their acting talents. From an artistic standpoint, however, the demand is left wanting, principally because it is quite apparent that neither of the principals is completely at home in this period piece. Both, and particularly Miss Hayworth, are much too much 1948 personalities to be able to lose themselves fully in a story such as this. Regardless, this should bother their more ardent fans but little—the main consideration being that Hayworth and Ford are together again.

Since the story, in addition to having been immortalized as an opera, has been bought to the screen 26 times previously (with U. S. producers taking credit for 13 versions), there is little need to synopsise here. Let it be said, however, that this version is faithful to the original. It is apparent from the beginning that tragedy is stalking the lovers, and the climactic scene wherein they meet death together clasped in each other's arms is genuinely overpowering. Ford makes a scowling, bitter Don Jose and Miss Hayworth is, alternately, a "sizzling" and metallic Carmen—it being difficult to accept her generally as other than Rita Hayworth. Adequate support is contributed by Ron Randell, Victor Jory, Luther Adler, John Baragrey and others. Baragrey plays Lucas, the bullfighter, whom Carmen loves also, but his role is a minor one. Actual bullfighting scenes are absent, and so is the opera's familiar Toreador song where the otherwise impressive background music is concerned. Helen Deutsch wrote the screenplay.

Running time, 95 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, not set.

CHARLES L. FRANKE

SIMPP Splits

(Continued from page 1)

be accompanied to London by Joyce O'Hara, his assistant.

Both SIMPP and MPAA officials were chary about comment on their differences. It was learned, however, that SIMPP does not see eye to eye with MPAA on the proposed policy for obtaining quota relief and safeguards, particularly should such policy involve, as reportedly it might, changes in the agreement reached last spring in settlement of the British *ad valorem* film tax.

Mulvey and Johnston negotiated the settlement with British officials.

Would Sever Link to Outcome

SIMPP's action in withdrawing from joint participation with MPAA on the current British market problems means that the organization and its members are serving notice that they will not be bound by any agreements which may be reached by Johnston during his impending London visit, an SIMPP spokesman said.

Whether SIMPP will endeavor later to negotiate quota relief independently in Britain has not yet been decided, it was indicated.

Expect Mulvey to Go

Without explanation an MPAA spokesman here late yesterday issued the following statement:

"We expect Mr. Mulvey to be on the plane with Mr. Johnston tomorrow night (Friday). Mr. Mulvey has been active with Mr. Johnston on every step of the negotiations leading to the withdrawal of the *ad valorem* tax as well as all subsequent activities pertaining to the agreement. During the past week Mr. Mulvey has affixed his signature to that of Mr. Johnston to cables concerning the implementation of the agreement and he has actively participated in several meetings concerning the British situation."

Kaye Addresses NTFC

Clearance of music in television was discussed by Sidney Kaye, vice-president and general counsel of Broadcast Music, Inc., at a meeting of the National Television Film Council at Sardi's here last night.

FCC to Set Rules

(Continued from page 1)

concerned about the final FCC decision on holdings.

Under rules proposed today, no firm could control more than five stations. If it controls five, it could not have an interest less than control in any other station. If it controls four, it could have a less-than-control interest in one or two others; if it controls three, it could have an interest in three or four others; if it controls two, in five or six others; if it controls one, in seven or eight others; and if it doesn't control any station, it could have a less than controlling interest in nine or 10 other video stations.

Briefs and statements in connection with these rules can be filed up to Sept. 27. The changes under consideration would not become effective until Jan. 1, 1953.

Peron Fines

(Continued from page 1)

value of celluloid without accounting for earnings from the films.

At the same time, the Central Bank has apportioned \$500,000 worth of permits—estimated to be a nine-months' supply—to the U. S. companies which, in turn, are understood to have waived the right to immediate payment in dollars. The import-permit accord was reached through the efforts here of Joaquin Rickard of the Motion Picture Association of America.

Disclosure of the fines, which relate back to the 1930's when companies declared all incoming film at a cent and a half per foot, was made in the Government's bulletin.

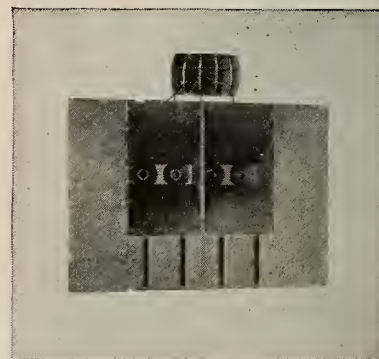


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FIRST
IN
FILM
NEWS

64. NO. 37

NEW YORK, U.S.A., MONDAY, AUGUST 23, 1948

TEN CENTS

Start Ending Clearance in New York Area

Additional Adjustments Seen for Independents

What is indicated as an extensive overhauling of clearance in the New York area, and possibly elsewhere, already has begun here with changes made in at least four situations.

Distributors have served notice on RKO Theatres that the clearance which the circuit has had over four theatres in The Bronx, Brooklyn, Long Beach and Lynbrook, L. I., is to be eliminated entirely with the four to get day-and-date availability with RKO houses in their respective zones.

The four are the Earl, Bronx, oper-

(Continued on page 4)

1st-Run Product to Towne After Suit

CHICAGO, Aug. 22.—Since instigation of the \$1,050,000 anti-trust suit filed by the Towne Theatre, Milwaukee, against the majors and theatre circuits, and which also asked for a divestiture of defendant-owned first run theatres, the Towne has been given the opportunity to bid for M-G-M and Paramount product, which prior to the suit had played the Fox Wisconsin and Palace theatres on first-run.

Towne has subsequently played M-G-M's "The Pirate" and "Easter Parade" and has won bids for Metro's "A Date with Judy" and Paramount's "A Foreign Affair" and "Dream Girl." Other defendant distributors have not as yet offered the Towne first-run product, it was said.

Hughes Withdraws 'Red River' Action

Howard Hughes has withdrawn his action to enjoin United Artists from releasing "Red River" following an agreement with Howard Hawks, producer of the film. It is understood that Hawks has consented to delete about 15 feet from the film and strike out one line of dialogue.

Hughes had sought the injunction in Dallas Federal Court on the grounds that one "Red River" scene too closely resembled a part of his production, "The Outlaw." The settlement paves the way for the opening of the film on Aug. 26 in 375 situations in the Southwest.

U. K. Industry Is Closer to Socialization

LONDON, Aug. 22. — Additional evidence of the government's move toward nationalization of the motion picture industry is seen in the earmarking of 1,000,000 pounds (\$4,000,000) for the production of four series of documentaries by the British Central Office of Information's film division, plus its decision to produce features, its new increased and more coordinated production schedule and its current drastic overhauling of the COI's film division.

Several other circumstances are pointed to as evidence of the intention to eventually socialize the film business here, among them: the \$20,000,000 Film Finance Corp. being pushed by Harold Wilson, president of the Board of Trade; Wilson's committee currently inquiring into the desirability of a government-owned studio; Wilson's pending full-dress probe into

(Continued on page 4)

Big 'Song' Campaign Sets New Pattern

Decision of the Samuel Goldwyn office to concentrate the bulk of its \$750,000 advertising campaign in support of the new Danny Kaye starrer, "A Song Is Born," on Sunday supplement advertising such as *American Weekly*, *This Week* and the comics, with ads appearing three or four

(Continued on page 5)

MPF Goal Seen Firm, Despite N. Y. Decision

Financial goal of the Motion Picture Foundation, reported unofficially to be in the neighborhood of \$10,000,000, will remain unchanged regardless of the outcome of the forthcoming deliberations by the U. S. District Court here on industry anti-trust suit questions raised by the Supreme Court decision, it is believed in MPF circles here. It was the impact of the Supreme Court's decision which caused a "postponement" of MPF activity across the country and is holding up the second MPF trustees convention.

The big anti-trust suit question, of course, relates to theatre divorcement, and the New York court's answer to it will bear directly on the theatre-

Rank's Sales Force Warned on Tactics

London, Aug. 22.—Questionable tactics on the part of General Film Distributors salesmen, such as those complained of by Cinematograph Exhibitors Association officials at recent meetings with J. Arthur Rank, will not be tolerated in the future, Rank is reliably reported to have told GFD salesmen at a general meeting here on Friday.

Rank, however, issued no statement following the meeting other than to say that a "most useful discussion" took place.

Rank's MacDonald Sees Film Economies

Economies are under way in British film production costs, according to David MacDonald, J. Arthur Rank director who is putting finishing touches on the \$2,225,000 production of "Christopher Columbus." Fredric March and Florence Eldridge star in the Technicolor film which will be released in this country by Universal-International, possibly in May.

The picture may be roadshown in this country, opening here simultaneously with the British engagement, MacDonald disclosed here at a trade press interview on Friday.

Pointing out that use of best-sellers and popular plays for the screen is one of the insurmountable sources of high production expenses, the British director suggested that encouragement of new, young writers would be a technique for controlling such costs.

Johnston Says SIMPP Rank Split on U.K.

Cites Tilt for Mulvey's Cancellation of Trip

Conflicting opinions within the ranks of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers has caused the withdrawal of James Mulvey from planned conferences with the British on U. S. film trade matters, Eric A. Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association of America, said before his departure for London at LaGuardia airfield here on Friday.

It had been announced originally that Mulvey, as SIMPP representative, would accompany Johnston on the trip. Johnston said that David O. Selznick, Samuel Goldwyn and Walter Wanger agreed that Mulvey should continue as SIMPP representative and join Johnston in dealing with "the new British problems that face us." He added that other independent pro-

(Continued on page 4)

Roy Disney Hits French Agreement

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 22.—Terming the agreement on the French proposal for unfreezing blocked funds tentatively approved by the Motion Picture Export Association last Tuesday as "highly discriminatory" and "unfair" to independent producers, Roy O. Disney yesterday asked Secretary of State George Marshall to delay finalization of any accord with the French government until the independents have been consulted.

"Arbitrary quota accords practically all meager benefits provided in this agreement to the so-called major companies and only a few crumbs to the independents and less powerful elements in the business," Disney asserted

(Continued on page 4)

Petrillo Discusses Basis for Demands

Arguing the need for increased pay and more employment of musicians in film production, James C. Petrillo, president of the American Federation of Musicians, on Friday sketched the background of demands to be made upon the companies at an informal discussion at the AFM headquarters here

(Continued on page 4)

Personal Mention

B. G. KRANZE, Film Classics distribution vice-president, will leave New York today for Chicago.

TOM O'BRIEN, general secretary of Britain's National Association of Kinematograph Employees, will sail for England on Saturday. He attended the IATSE convention in Cleveland last week.

HARRY M. KALMINE, Warner Theatres president and general manager; **W. STEWART McDONALD**, vice-president, and **HARRY GOLDBERG**, advertising-publicity director, will return to New York today from Washington.

IRVING STACEL, who formerly operated several independent theatres in Chicago, has joined National Screen Service as salesman in that city. He succeeds the late **ROY ALEXANDER**.

EDWARD WEBER has been named manager of the Santa Clara Theatre in Santa Clara, Cal., succeeding **FRED FRECHETTE**, who has resigned to enter another business.

ROBERT L. SCHAEFER, former manager of the Globe Theatre, Holyoke, Mass., has been named manager of E. M. Loew's Thompson Square Theatre in Boston.

ARY LIMA, manager of Warners' Atlantic division for Latin America, left New York over the weekend for his headquarters in Rio de Janeiro.

MRS. LOUIS STANCER, widow of a former Toronto neighborhood theatre owner, has leased the Hudson Theatre in Toronto.

A. KAPLAN, district manager of Brandt Theatres, has returned to New York from a vacation.

DAVID D. HORNE, Film Classics foreign sales manager, returned here at the weekend from a Caribbean tour.

WALTER LASKER president of Lasker-Schwartz, will return here today from a Midwestern trip.

William Blair Dies, Kansas Exhibitor

KANSAS CITY, Aug. 22.—Funeral services were held at Osborne, Kan., yesterday for **William Blair**, owner of the Blair Theatre in that city, who died in a hospital in Neodesha after a heart attack. He was visiting in that town with his two young sons.

Booking and other operations of the theatre are being handled temporarily by **Dan Blair**, manager of the Blair at Smith Center for Sam Blair, his father and uncle to the deceased. The widow also survives.

Mrs. Louis Schlusel, 71

DETROIT, Aug. 22.—Mrs. Louis Schlusel, wife of the owner of the Farnum Theatre, died Friday afternoon at her home here. She was 71 years old. Funeral services were held today.

Tradewise . . .

By **SHERWIN KANE**

AN anti-trust action which will be of wide interest throughout the industry, and which has been in preparation for several months, is about ready for filing. You will be reading about it in the news columns any day now.

The action will name an independent film buying combine, one of the first of its kind if not the daddy of them all. It will allege illegal use of buying power, combination in restraint of trade and other practices held to be illegal in the U. S. Supreme Court decision in the Paramount case, all boldly highlighted in the decision.

When this publication last May quoted legal opinions to the effect that the U. S. Supreme Court's decision concerning combinations of buying power was applicable to independent film buying combines as well as to circuits, spokesmen for combines rejected such opinions as being "obviously inspired," adding that the court had found in the Griffith case that combinations of buying power were not illegal if not used to "hurt anyone." That cleared the independent combines, they concluded.

Now here come plaintiffs who believe they have been "hurt" by an independent buying combine and who are prepared to attempt to prove it in court.

Not unrelated to the complaint against the independent buying combine will be another against an affiliated circuit, to be filed by the same plaintiffs. That case, however, lacks the precedential possibilities inherent in the action against the independent combine.

Attorneys for intervenors in one of the industry arbitration cases which was filed subsequent to the Supreme Court decision in the Paramount case have indicated their willingness to accept voluntary arbitration of the complaint.

Efforts are being made to devise a form of voluntary submission which will be acceptable to all parties and to the Department of Justice. The Department, of course, cannot stand in the way of voluntary arbitration but its cooperation with the procedure is felt to be desirable, regardless, and therefore is being sought.

At this stage it appears quite likely that voluntary arbitration

will be effectively provided, if only until such time as the New York Federal Court has its final say on the form of industry arbitration which it can or cannot support.

William F. Rodgers, Loew's vice-president and general sales manager, recently expressed to a trade press audience his preference for an industry arbitration system such as the one in existence a number of years ago and which was characterized by arbitrators having industry experience.

Many exhibitors favor such a system. The former Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America championed it for years following entry of the consent decree in the Paramount case. On the other hand, many exhibitors are dubious about or indifferent to arbitration boards comprised of industry members.

Should the New York Federal Court when it resumes hearings in the industry case in the fall, decide to exercise its discretionary support of an industry arbitration system, it would seem that both preferences might be satisfied by adding to the American Arbitration Association's panels men with industry experience. Whenever such men were preferred as arbitrators they then would be available.

J. Arthur Rank reportedly still is finding it difficult to understand why his pictures meet with so much sales resistance over here, both from exhibitors and the public.

On the other hand, at least two major American companies find it equally difficult to understand why Rank's circuits can't find some playing time for their pictures. They do all right everywhere else.

Rank wants free and open markets for his pictures around the world. He wants the deepest international penetration possible—for Rank's pictures. Yet his own circuits remain closed to much good product from here and elsewhere, and Rank is at the forefront of the arbitrarily and unreasonably restricted British film market as a whole.

One day it may occur to him that trade, whether at home or around the world, is simply giving the customer what he wants, not what a few think he should have.

Newsreel Parade

THE funeral of **Babe Ruth** in New York is covered in all current newsreels, along with the proclamation of the new Korean Republic and the historic oil well strike in Canada. Also highlighted are closing Olympic events in London, beauty contests and high-diving. Complete synopses follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 301—Throngs pay homage to the late **Babe Ruth**. **MacArthur** visits new Republic of Korea. Canadian oil well on a rampage. Beauty contest for grandmothers in Chicago. High-diving dare-devil. Olympic games' closing highlights.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 301—Independent Korea hails **MacArthur**. Farewell to **Babe Ruth**. Canadian oil well strike. Olympic finale. High-diving champion. Perfect legs win beauty acclaim.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 104—Great-est oil discovery in Canada. **Babe Ruth** at rest. Korea Republic proclaimed. Olympic fade-out.

UNIVERSAL NEWS, No. 171—**Babe Ruth** laid to rest; honored by millions. Korean independence. Oil development in Canada. Beautiful legs contest. High-diving. Olympics' final events.

WARNER PATHE NEWS, No. 2—Farewell to **Babe Ruth**. Korean Republic proclaimed. "Little sisters" beauty contest. Canadian oil discovered. Olympics finale. Great Events: Battle of Lake Erie.

K-MTA Parley to Study Video, Ascap

KANSAS CITY, Aug. 22.—Television will be among the principal subjects discussed when the Kansas-Missouri Theatre Association holds its annual convention here Sept. 28-29. Plans for the convention were discussed by K-MTA directors at a meeting here last week. Also prominent on the agenda of the annual parley will be the New York Federal Court decision holding Ascap's collection of music licensing fees illegal and public relations.

The convention will hear reports on the observance of Youth Month during September and will study proposals for continuing support of exhibitors for local projects in behalf of youth throughout the year.

New Theatre Firm Acquires 2 Houses

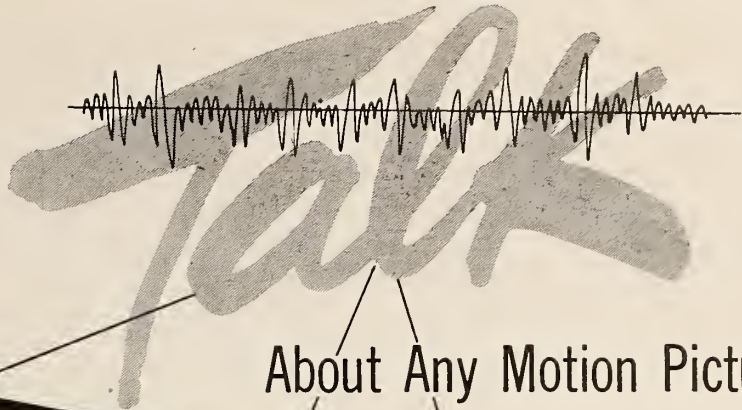
Community Amusement Corp., new corporation with offices at Hartford, has leased and will operate the Daily Theatre in Hartford, and the Plainfield, in Plainfield, Conn.

Dimitris Petrou is president of the corporation, **John Calvoceressi** is treasurer and **Bernie Menschell** is secretary. Both Calvoceressi and Menschell were associated with Skouras Theatres in Queens.

Boston Exhibitors Halt Ascap Payments

Boston, Aug. 22.—Some 50 independent theatre owners in this territory will stop further music reproduction payments to Ascap as a result of Federal Judge **Vincent L. Leibel's** decision in New York which ruled that the society's collections are illegal.

Not Since "Lost Weekend" Has
There Been So Much Advance



ACADEMY AWARD STARS OF THE LAST 3 YEARS SAY:

"I've listened to 'SORRY, WRONG NUMBER' on the radio—I've read it as a novel—now I've just seen it on the screen—and it's left me breathless. It's truly an electrifying experience, and in my opinion Barbara Stanwyck's performance deserves a nomination for the Academy Award."

—JOAN CRAWFORD

"In her career, Barbara Stanwyck has given performance after performance of Academy Award caliber. In 'SORRY, WRONG NUMBER,' however, as the pathetic, terror-ridden Leona, she surpasses even herself."

—LORETTA YOUNG

'SORRY, WRONG NUMBER' is without a doubt one of the best suspense dramas I've seen. Burt Lancaster gives a great performance, and Barbara Stanwyck is positively magnificent. It won't surprise me in the least if Barbara wins herself the Oscar which she has so well deserved."

—RAY MILLAND



No. 1
Of A Series



BARBARA
Stanwyck

BURT
Lancaster

in

"SORRY, WRONG NUMBER"

with ANN RICHARDS · WENDELL COREY · HAROLD VERMILYEA · ANATOLE LITVAK · HAL WALLIS and ANATOLE LITVAK
Directed by
Produced by
Screenplay by Lucille Fletcher
Based on her famous radio play
A HAL WALLIS PRODUCTIONS, INC., PICTURE
A Paramount Release

Boycotters By-pass US-Owned UK Films

Organized boycotters of British pictures in New York demonstrated at the weekend that they have a yardstick whereby they judge whether a particular English-made film is to be picketed. If a British production is owned outright by a U. S. distributor, it is apparently not subject to boycott action in the estimation of The Sons of Liberty, boycotting group opposed to Britain's Palestine policy.

When the British-made "Quiet Week End" opened at the Park Avenue Theatre here at the weekend, picketing of the house by the organization began, but was halted at once, according to the theatre management, when the picketers were informed that the picture's distributor here, Distinguished Films, purchased the picture outright from its English producer.

Kelly Off to London On Odeon Bookings

A general inspection of United Artists affairs in England will be undertaken by Arthur Kelly, executive vice-president, upon his arrival in London. He left New York at the weekend.

Kelly will concern himself with, among other things, UA bookings by the Odeon circuit, controlled by J. Arthur Rank. UA has an interest in the circuit of about 25 per cent, it is understood, but still often runs into problems on playing time.

Gluck Leaves Park Ave. For UW Post

Norman E. Gluck has left the house managership of the Park Avenue Theatre here to join United World Films in an executive capacity. UW is the 16mm. subsidiary of Universal-International which is the lessee of the Park Avenue. Mrs. M. Esberg, formerly assistant manager, has succeeded Gluck at the theatre. She has been succeeded by Albert Fisher.

Mexico Film Bank Report

MEXICO CITY, Aug. 22. — Mexico's film industry has received loans, discounts and credits totaling \$3,504,278 to date from its own bank, the Banco Nacional Cinematografico, S.A.

Johnston Says

(Continued from page 1)

ducer members of the organization, all of them distributing through United Artists, had expressed opposing views.

Johnston said he did not know why the other independents were in disagreement on the possible advantages of Mulvey's presence in England. Adding a personal note, Johnston said he was in receipt of a "cordial" communication from Mulvey.

Has 'Broad Power' to Deal

Asked if he were hopeful of a reduction of England's 45 per cent exhibitor quota, Johnston answered that the quota and "other reasons" have prompted his trip. He said he has "broad powers" in dealing with the British.

He said he intends to confer with Sir Stafford Cripps, Chancellor of the Exchequer; Harold Wilson, president of the British Board of Trade, and J. Arthur Rank and Alexander Korda. He said he will see Rank either today or tomorrow and said he was aware of a report that Rank intends to give American pictures only secondary status in his playing time.

He again expressed doubt that the British production will be sufficient to make the quota workable.

To Enter 'Curtain' Area

Johnston said he expects that the American companies' new film and dollar agreement with the French government will be signed at any time in the near future. He intends to visit France and possibly four other countries, he said, adding that "behind the iron curtain" is on his itinerary.

Johnston was accompanied by Joyce O'Hara, his assistant; Merrie Smith, his secretary, and his daughter. He said he intends to return to the U. S. about Oct. 1 and probably will limit his stay in England to about 10 days.

U. K. Industry

(Continued from page 1)

distribution and exhibition, and the governmentally - appointed standing committees controlling in varying degree every phase of the country's production.

The COI is being supplied with product by 20 commercially-owned firms and by a state-controlled studio. The film division's one-reelers are already shown regularly, and for nothing, in upwards of 3,000 theatres and will continue to be shown in them, according to a pledge by the Cinematograph Exhibitors Association. The government itself operates 150 mobile theatres.

John Grierson has been brought in as coordinator-in-chief of COI production.

There are plenty of showmen-witnesses prepared to offer their opinions that these moves are only a step from the status of senior partner to that of sole owner.

Unconnected with Wilson's studio inquiry, but under COI's aegis, is the state-controlled Beaconsfield plant, once run by the late Samuel Woolf Smith for his British Lion. It has now been taken over by the Crown Film Unit, an offshoot of COI.

Although it is not yet officially announced, Crown Film will shortly embark on an ambitious program of feature production. Donald Taylor, one of the more active documentarians, is producer-in-chief. He aims at producing up to six features annually.

SAG, 'IA' Smoking Peace Pipe: Arnold

Cleveland, Aug. 22.—"Old-time animosities" in Hollywood between the IATSE and the Screen Actors Guild have ended, actor Edward Arnold disclosed here at the weekend at the conclusion of the "IA's" 29th biennial convention, to which he proposed the establishment of an industry-wide arbitration board for film labor disputes.

Arnold assured SAG's cooperation to "clean up" the Hollywood labor situation with "IA" president Richard F. Walsh.

'IA' Representatives Get 15% Pay Raise

CLEVELAND, Aug. 22.—Resolutions offered and approved at the concluding session of the IATSE convention included a 15 per cent salary boost for International representatives, wage increases for road men, a request to reduce their seven-day work schedule to six with the same pay, and graduating vacation periods up to a maximum of four weeks with pay for 10-year employees.

Also, the convention went on record for increased Social Security and for an 85-cent hourly minimum for unskilled labor. It endorsed an effort for employer-participation in a pension plan and referred to the executive board a resolution for a retirement plan. It also plans to give "IA" jurisdiction over all laboratory screenings.

Tom O'Brien, secretary of Britain's National Association of Kinematograph Employees, was presented with a gold life membership card.

Disney Hits

(Continued from page 1)

in a telegram to Secretary Marshall.

Independent and smaller producers are either frozen out or made completely dependent upon the 10 companies among whom the over-all quota of 110 pictures would be divided, Disney declared, adding: "This, no doubt, will lead to a black market in the peddling of permits by some of the favored 10, many of whom do not have much, if any product that would warrant the dollar expense necessary for dubbing into the French language, or for the dollar cost of prints."

Thus, he continued, "we firmly believe [the agreement] will not only prove 'very unfair' to the 'lesser' companies in the American industry, 'but will also prove very unsatisfactory to the French motion picture public because they will be sent not the best films from the American output but only the numerical selection based on possession of permits."

Petrillo

(Continued from page 1)

with producer representatives negotiating a new contract for studio instrumentalists.

While the payment of extra wages to musicians in films used in television was not discussed at the meeting, this and other demands of the AFM are expected to be formally submitted to the producer spokesmen tomorrow.

Ask Divestiture Now In Wash. Trust Suit

WASHINGTON, Aug. 22.—The K-B Amusement Co. told a Federal District Court here on Saturday that no final judgment in the Paramount case is necessary before "Big Five" defendants can be ordered to dispose of theatres which the Supreme Court said it was illegal for them to own.

K-B has a suit pending to force Stanley Co., Warner subsidiary, of the jointly-owned MacArthur Theatre. It claimed that the Supreme Court ruled against joint ownership where theatres are owned with independents that otherwise would be sole owners. In reply, Stanley moved to dismiss the suit, claiming there was no final judgment in the Paramount case and that no "Big Five" firm was required to dispose of any theatre until the further proceedings ordered by the Supreme Court are terminated.

Million Dollar Libel Suit Filed by Gosch

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 22.—Producer Martin A. Gosch filed suit in Superior Court at the weekend for \$1,000,000 in damages as a result of what he claims were libelous and slanderous statements made against him on a Town Hall broadcast over the American Broadcasting network during a discussion on Communist influence in Hollywood. In addition to Town Hall, Inc., and ABC, defendants named included Mrs. Leila Rogers, Sam Wood, Morris Ryskind, Robert Arthur and others.

The complaint asserts he was subjected to contempt, hatred, obloquy and prejudice following the program last Sept. 2, and it adds he was prevented from producing the Emmet Lavery play, "A Gentleman from Athens," for which he said he held a contract. A separate suit against Lavery was filed several months ago.

Colosseum Pact Talk Expected This Week

Spokesmen here for the Colosseum of Motion Picture Salesmen of America and 11 distributors indicated yesterday that negotiations for the first national union contract for film salesmen will be resumed in the near future, perhaps this week. However, one Colosseum representative said he expected it would be two weeks yet before a resumption of talks, suspended early this month, takes place.

The suspension was agreed upon by both sides to allow the negotiators time to prepare and submit to their respective organizations an interim report on the status of negotiations.

Ending Clearance

(Continued from page 1)

ated by the Julius Joelson circuits; the Walker, Brooklyn, a Randforce house; Century's Lynbrook Theatre in Lynbrook, and a second Century house in Long Beach.

Century, Metropolitan Playhouses and Skouras Theatres have asked distributors to end seven-day clearances now held by RKO and Loew houses in those areas in which the three operate. Their bid for simultaneous availability was prompted by the settlement with Max Cohen of his anti-trust suit against 20th Century-Fox and Warner which gave Cohen day-and-date runs for his New Amsterdam house with the RKO circuit.

Mr. Exhibitor!

'K-DAY'

**will be
YOUR PAY DAY!**

1948-49 E-L Film Confabs on Coast

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 22.—William J. Heineman, Eagle-Lion distribution vice-president, has arrived here for conferences on the company's 1948-49 product with E-L president Arthur B. Krim; Max E. Youngstein, advertising-publicity vice-president, and studio publicity director Sam Israel.

While at the studio Heineman will determine national sales policies on major 1948-49 product, and will screen completed or currently shooting films including "Let's Live a Little," Walter Wanger's Technicolor "Tulsa," "29 Clues," "The Big Cat," in Technicolor, and "Adventures of Gallant Bess," in Cinecolor.

Following the conferences, Youngstein begins the final lap of his nationwide tour of exchange cities with a Los Angeles branch sales meeting tomorrow. At the meeting, Youngstein will set up machinery for the company's current "Bill Heineman Sales Drive," of which he is captain, and will appoint branch manager Sam Milner deputy captain.

During the balance of the week, Youngstein will visit exchanges in San Francisco, Portland, Seattle and Salt Lake City. In New York he will conduct the 31st and final meeting next Monday.

'Song' Campaign

(Continued from page 1)

weeks before November playdates in a carefully worked out schedule, sets a new pattern for industry advertising.

James A. Mulvey, Goldwyn chief, claims that it is the most direct producer support of a playdate ever provided for an exhibitor. In addition, Mulvey points out that the "hot" music and musicians featured in the picture have been used to provide the most varied and comprehensive radio campaign yet devised. Some 16,000 transcriptions and records, varying in length from 15 minutes to 20 seconds, have been shipped to the RKO Radio field staff under Terry Turner's direction.

Exploitation accessories include a specially designed wallpaper, jewelry, silk and cotton fabric, handkerchiefs, neckties and toys, all with music designs or themes. Nine phonograph companies and six music publishers are issuing special numbers tied up with "A Song Is Born."

Special Brochure for WB's 'Rope'

As part of its campaign planned by Mort Blumenstock, advertising-publicity vice-president, for the promotion of Alfred Hitchcock's "Rope," Warner Brothers is distributing a "photographic production notebook."

In addition to statements by Jack L. Warner and Hitchcock, it contains articles of narrative technique, backgrounds and lighting, still photography and a discussion of color by Natalie Kalmus. The brochure is being distributed to colleges, libraries and community groups.

Donahue & Coe Expand

Donahue and Coe, advertising agency handling a number of film industry accounts, has opened a branch in Washington, with J. Raymond Bell in charge.

Review

"The Dead Don't Dream"

(United Artists)

MOVEMENT and suspense are present in abundance in this Western in which mystery is an important factor in drawing attention. Aided by Andy Clyde, William Boyd again assists the cause of good entertainment in a Hopalong Cassidy role. Boyd once more is the wily, hard-hitting man of the range who brings the villains to book after a furious give-and-take.

Although there is a Western setting and background with cowboys, fisticuffs and outdoor action scenes, the plot centers about mysterious murders. Cassidy arrives in the town to attend a wedding, which is postponed when the girl's uncle is slain. The body is discovered in a gold mine. Then another gold prospector mysteriously disappears, and lastly the sheriff vanishes. Boyd sets a trap for the murderers. Finally the killers are revealed as partners who coveted the possessions of their victims. Lewis J. Rachmil produced and George Archainbaud directed. The screenplay is based on characters created by Clarence E. Mulford.

Running time, 68 minutes. General audience classification.

Form First Video Investment Firm

CHICAGO, Aug. 22.—Organization of Television Fund, Inc., said to be the first "open-end" investment company specializing in securities in the field of video, electronics and radio was announced here on Friday by a business and financial group headed by Chester D. Tripp. The Fund is said to be registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission and shares will be available for public offering through investment dealers shortly.

The company was conceived as a "logical medium for participation in the future of the television industry," according to Tripp, president, who also is head of Consolidated Copper Mines and Grip Nut Co. and chairman of Economic Trend Line Studies. Other directors are William Pope, Charles D. James, Russell Matthias and Herbert H. Taylor.

Irving Trust Co., New York, is custodian of the Fund.

Gold Named to Head Video Film Council

Melvin Gold, director of advertising-publicity for National Screen Service, has been nominated for the presidency of the National Television Film Council, which concerns itself with the use of motion pictures in video.

Other officers nominated were: Burt Balaban, film director of Paramount Television, for vice-president; Robert M. Paskow, film director of WATV, Newark, treasurer, and Robert W. Wormhoudt, executive vice-president of Telecast Films, Inc., secretary. Elections are scheduled for September.

'Largo' Runs Extended

Some 300 of 400 engagements of Warner's "Key Largo" played to date have been extended runs, the company reports. In normal one-week stands, the picture has been held for from two to six weeks and from 10 to 12 days in split-week situations, the company adds, with the latter practically unanimously holding over the film to at least a full week.

Heads Studio Video Unit

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 22.—Les Peterson of M-G-M has been elected chairman of a subcommittee in charge of radio and television by the Studio Publicity Directors Committee. He succeeds William Winter of 20th Century-Fox.

Production Drops Sharply, Down 7

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 22.—The production index fell sharply to 23 from a previous 30. Seven new films were launched while 14 were sent to cutting rooms.

Shooting started on "Joe Palooka in the Big Fight," Monogram; "Follow Me Quietly," (RKO Radio; "Last of the Wild Horses" (Lippert), Screen Guild; "Mother Is a Freshman," "Down to the Sea in Ships" and "Rose of Cimarron" (Alson), 20th Century-Fox; "Outpost in Morocco" (Moroccan), United Artists.

Shooting was finished on "The Lone Wolf and His Lady" and "Jungle Jim," Columbia; "Red Stallion in the Rockies," "Tulsa" (Wanger) and "Parole" (Orbit), Eagle-Lion; "The Bribe," M-G-M; "Incident" and "Call of the Cactus," Monogram; "Prejudice," Protestant Film Commission; "Far Frontier," Republic; "Interference," RKO Radio; "The Fan" and "Chicken Every Sunday," 20th-Fox; "The Lucky Stiff" (Amusement Enterprises), United Artists.

N. Y. Area Luncheon For Rogers Hospital

Local exhibitors, both independent and circuit, will meet here tomorrow for luncheon at the Hotel Astor, to discuss plans for the current fund-raising drive for the Will Rogers Memorial Hospital. Meeting with the exhibitors will be members of the New York committee in charge of the drive.

Short Subject

"Families First"

(20th Century-Fox)

In "Families First" the New York State Youth Commission once more has turned to the screen to deliver a resounding blow in the fight to rescue youths from the ways of transgression. With juvenile delinquency today a matter of grave public concern, it becomes nothing less than the solemn duty of exhibitors to give this the widest possible showing. Dealing with the importance of family life in shaping the social behavior of the young, the film is a significant contribution to the subject of parent-child relationship. How the happy home, ruled by understanding parents, makes better citizens is illustrated with human warmth in an interesting account of parental shortcomings that help promote delinquency. The film brings home vividly a vexing problem with a simplicity that is commendable.

The picture, excellently produced by RKO Pathe, will be released gratis to theatres in New York State through 20th-Fox on Aug. 30 in a 10-minute version as part of the September Youth Month program sponsored by the Theatre Owners of America. A sequel to "Children in Trouble," the picture is also available in a 17-minute 16mm. version for non-theatrical purposes. Edward Montagne directed and Dwight Weist narrated.

Columbia Field Men Meet Here Tomorrow

Columbia field exploitation representatives from East of the Rocky Mountains will be in the home office tomorrow for a one-day meeting, called by Arthur A. Schmidt, director of advertising-publicity, to discuss promotion plans for "The Loves of Carmen."

Those attending will include Sid Zins, Milton Young, Harry Bernstein, Ed Rosenbaum, Jules Serkovich and William Shirley.

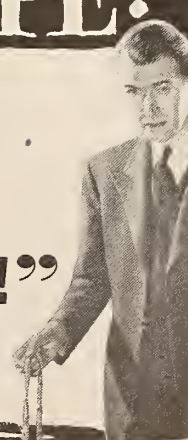
U-I Trio to Coast

Al Horwits, Universal-International's Eastern publicity manager; Charles Simonelli, Eastern exploitation manager, and Philip Gerard of the company's publicity staff flew to the studio at the weekend to set details of advance campaigns for two films.

THE LATEST WORD ON ROPE:

“It will keep you
dangling from
beginning to end!”

— REDBOOK MAGAZINE



Trailers COST LESS and SELL MORE

*Than any other form of Theatre Advertising**

* Trailers draw 31% of your Patrons
... according to Woman's Home
Companion's 1947 Motion Picture
Survey!

NATIONAL *Screen* SERVICE
PRIZE BABY OF THE INDUSTRY



Accurate
Concise
and
Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

FIRST
IN
FILM
NEWS

MR. JOYCE O'HARA,
MOTION PICTURE ASSOC. OF
AMERICA,
28 WEST 44TH ST., 21ST FL.
NEW YORK, N. Y.

FILE COPY
DO NOT REMOVE

NO. 38 NEW YORK, U.S.A., TUESDAY, AUGUST 24, 1948 TEN CENTS

Fix Sept. 15th Deadline in Divorce Quiz

'Big 5' Strive to Submit Data to D. of J. by Then

The "Big Five" defendants in the Paramount anti-trust litigation are working with a Sept. 15 deadline in mind for the submission of the last of the information on joint theatre ownerships sought by the Department of Justice, it was learned here yesterday. The Government interrogatories were served on the companies on July 1 under the divestiture clauses of the U. S. Supreme Court's decision in the case.

The deadline was fixed in an understanding with Robert L. Wright, special assistant to the U. S. Attorney General. Although the defendants will bend every effort to make all the material wanted by the Government available by Sept. 15, it is understood they will be allowed to go beyond that date should it prove humanly impossible for them to have the information ready by then.

The time originally allowed for submitting answers to the interrogatories was extended by the Department of Justice.

Study FCC Right To Ban Giveaways

WASHINGTON, Aug. 23.—Federal Communications Commission lawyers, admittedly in a quandary, were busy today "studying" whether the FCC has legal authority to institute its proposed crackdown on radio giveaway shows.

Early this month the FCC announced its proposed rules doing away with most of these programs. On Friday counsel Don Petty of the National Association of Broadcasters claimed

TOA Will Hear Coy On Video Problems

Many of the problems now facing exhibitors as a result of television are expected to be clarified by Wayne Coy, chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, in an address before the national convention of the Theatre Owners of America in the Drake Hotel, Chicago, on Sept. 25.

Coy has been asked to speak as part of the TOA's drive to present figures of national prominence to its members during the convention.

Grosses Up at N. Y. 1st Runs; \$100,000 Likely for 'Pitfall'

Business is taking a turn for the better at some New York situations this week with the improvement mainly at the larger houses with stage shows.

"Pitfall" with Dick Powell in person at the Capitol is a powerful newcomer which is headed for an initial week's gross of \$100,000, strictly top-notch. "Race Street" is good in its opening week at the Mayfair, estimated at \$30,000. All other programs are holdovers.

The Music Hall show comprising "Date with Judy" and the elaborate stage presentation is doing phenomenal business. Gross for the third week is likely to hit \$152,000. The house

(Continued on page 5)

SPG to Ask 25% Pay Rise in New Pacts

Salary increases of 25 per cent, as well as other benefits, will be asked by the Screen Publicists Guild in negotiations with the major companies which may begin next month. SPG's contracts with the companies terminate Sept. 26. Letters informing the companies of SPG's readiness to negotiate the new contracts were sent out recently.

Other demands, approved by the membership and now in the hands of the strategy committee include a general tightening of security clauses, more liberal severance pay, the establishment of the 35-hour, five-day week

(Continued on page 5)

Hit Distributors on Neglect of Territory

Denver, Aug. 23.—Asserting that "there are too many branch managers who haven't been over the territory for years," Allied Rocky Mountain Independent Theatres in its current bulletin is reminding distribution executives that "a lot of business is lost to a lot of companies through the downright laziness of its sales organization in the field." "There are too many theatre accounts . . . that just plainly haven't been solicited in months" in the Rocky Mountain territory, the bulletin says, adding that sales executives should "concentrate on a little old-fashioned salesmanship."

SIMPP Group Wary Of Tie with MPAA

Independent producers have taken the position that alignment with the Motion Picture Association of America in dealings in England on new trade problems might result in a joint program to which they would be committed and which, they suspect, might encroach on their earning power as individuals in that country.

Producers' representatives here state that any new project, such as a Motion Picture Export Association in England, might leave them on the short end of future remittable earnings. Also cited was a traditional disinclination of joining hands with

(Continued on page 4)

Johnston Gets Opinions on MPEA for UK

Meets U. S. Managers; Will See Rank Tonight

LONDON, August 23.—The advisability of establishing a Motion Picture Export Association operation here was discussed by Eric A. Johnston, MPEA president, at a six-hour meeting with American managers following a luncheon for Johnston here today. The discussion will be resumed at a second meeting on Wednesday.

Under the MPEA plan, controlled and limited film releases could be established by the American companies to counter some effects of the new British 45 per cent quota. Johnston has virtually plenipotentiary powers on his current mission, insofar as making such a decision is concerned, he indicated on his arrival here from New York on Saturday. However, he said he wished to have the advice of the men on the spot before taking such action.

Johnston is scheduled to dine with J. Arthur Rank at Claridge's tonight and it is believed certain that reports that Rank plans to relegate American

(Continued on page 4)

20th to Represent RKO in So. Africa

Twentieth Century-Fox has acquired exclusive distribution rights to RKO Radio product in the Union of South Africa in a 10-year deal which becomes effective Sept. 1, both companies announced here yesterday. The deal was closed by Spyros Skouras, president, and Murray Silverstone, foreign head, of 20th-Fox, and by Ned E. Depinet, executive vice-

(Continued on page 4)

Europe Hedging in U. S. Film Distribution: Maas

Irving Maas, Motion Picture Export Association vice-president and general manager, who recently returned to New York from a 10-week tour of the European market, expressed only a minimum of optimism at a press conference yesterday regarding the future prospects for U. S. pictures in Europe in general and in the MPEA territory in particular. Europe is leaning more and more toward "hedging" in the distribution of American pictures, he said.

The principal reasons for this, Maas said, are monetary and political—but largely political. Soviet-influenced countries like Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, Hungary and Rumania

serve up the biggest problems for the MPEA, he indicated.

For example, he disclosed, the MPEA has discontinued all distribution activities in Rumania following an edict by that government that only "progressive and realistic pictures" can be permitted on Rumanian screens. U. S. pictures, in the opinion of Rumanian officialdom, do not conform to that standard.

He expressed confidence that MPEA would arrive at a deal soon with the Czechs for distribution of

(Continued on page 4)

SRO Names Hoare to Studio Post Abroad

The appointment of Victor J. Hoare as executive director of Selznick Studio, Ltd., effective immediately, was announced yesterday by Louis Lewis, Selznick Releasing Organization's European director. Hoare will act as supervisor of all releasing arrangements for SRO pictures in Great Britain and Continental Europe.

Hoare has held industry positions for the past 17 years. Among the companies he has been associated with are United Artists and Eagle-Lion.

Army Theatres May Admit Civilians

WASHINGTON, Aug. 23.—The Army is considering again allowing civilians to go to theatres on Army posts, it was learned today.

If such a policy is adopted, it would be accompanied by a promise that the Army will restrict admissions carefully and see that the civilians are really accompanying soldiers. Major exhibitor organizations and distributors are now being asked for their reaction to the proposal, and it is expected that it will be a month or more before a final decision is announced.

The return to the war policy is being studied as a result of the new draft law and as part of the Army's campaign to make the switch-over from civilian to Army life as easy as possible for the draftees.

'Youth Month' Plans Set in Kansas City

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Aug. 23.—The Kansas City Theatre Committee is ready for the promotion of "Youth Month" in cooperation with local welfare groups.

M. D. Cohn of the Paramount is coordinating chairman of the four committees designated to handle various parts of the program. Senn Lawler, Fox Midwest Theatres, heads the group assigned to the Sept. 1-7 "Education" week; Joe Redmond, Esquire Theatre, is chairman of the committee on health and physical protection which will be stressed Sept. 8-14; Jay Means, Oak Park Theatres, will direct the "citizen and character building" campaign Sept. 15-21, and in the final week Ted Winn, Orpheum, will act as chairman of the group on recreation.

Theatre-Building Is Weighed by Coyne

Theatre Owners of America executive Robert W. Coyne, who returned to New York yesterday from a New England vacation to make preparations for the forthcoming TOA convention, reports that he has "two or three deals" pending, one a theatre-building deal, as part of his plans for the future.

Coyne, whose former TOA executive director post has been taken over by Gael Sullivan, said he will make a definite announcement regarding his future plans "within the next 30 days." When Coyne resigned as executive director a month or so ago he indicated he intended to remain in the industry.

Name Contest Winners

The three winners in the contest for the best exploitation campaigns in the Philadelphia area for Walter Wanger's "Tap Roots" are Leon Korr, Earle Theatre, Allentown; Robert Sidman, Senate Theatre, Harrisburg, and Lew Black, Warner Theatre, Wilmington. The trio will be guests of Universal-International for weekends in New York.

Roland Winters' Father

BROOKLINE, Mass., Aug. 23.—Felix Winternitz, father of Roland Winters, star of "Charlie Chan" pictures, died here late Friday night.

Personal Mention

NEIL AGNEW will be tendered a farewell party at Gay 90's tomorrow night by SRO associates here. He leaves the organization Sept. 1.

FRED SCHANBERGER, an owner of Keith's, Baltimore, will be host at a press and radio cocktail party at the Lord Baltimore Hotel on Thursday, preceding a preview of "One Touch of Venus" at the theatre.

WILLIAM JAY HAMBORSKY, manager of Fabian's Capitol, Staten Island, who was married July 16 to HELEN ELIZABETH STEINMEYER, has returned from a Canadian wedding trip.

NAT LEVY, RKO Radio Eastern division manager, will be in Detroit today and tomorrow from New York, and in Cleveland on Thursday and Friday.

TIM O'TOOLE, former New Haven branch manager for Columbia, will make his permanent home in Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

ESTELLE O'TOOLE, secretary to Warners' Hartford district manager HENRY L. NEEDLES, is vacationing at Virginia Beach, Va.

HOWARD K. RICHARDSON, partner in the State Theatre, New Britain, Conn., will leave this weekend on a Cape Cod vacation.

HOWARD DIETZ, M-G-M vice-president in charge of advertising-publicity, is due to return to New York tomorrow by plane from Paris.

LEO BROIDY, Eagle-Lion publicity manager, returned to New York yesterday from a Southern vacation.

E. M. Loew's Halts Payments to Ascap

BOSTON, Aug. 23.—E. M. Loew's Theatres, independent circuit of some 50 theatres in New England, has stopped payment of music licensing fees to Ascap as a result of Federal Judge Vincent L. Leibell's decision in New York holding that the society's collection of such fees is illegal.

Among the circuits in this area which are continuing to pay Ascap are Interstate, Gordon and Lockwood and the Maine and New Hampshire Theatres Corp. Some fifty independent theatre owners in the Boston territory have halted further payments, as reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY yesterday.

MGM Blind Checking, Allied Unit Asserts

DENVER, Aug. 23.—M-G-M is using blind checkers at neighborhood theatres in Denver, it is asserted by the Allied Rocky Mountain Independent Theatres in its current bulletin. A man who subsequently identified himself as a checker for M-G-M, the bulletin asserts, was recently questioned by Denver police as a "suspicious character," when observed in the vicinity of a local theatre.

H. M. RICHEY, M-G-M exhibitor relations head, will leave here on Friday for Detroit, going to Toronto from there.

BOBBY MIRISCH, 10-year-old son of Allied Artists' vice-president HAROLD MIRISCH, has been signed for his first screen role in Monogram's "Joe Palooka in the Big Fight."

JOHN COLLINS, former assistant manager of the Central Square, Cambridge, Mass., has been named manager of the Paramount, Newton, Mass., succeeding GEORGE VAN BUSKIRK.

ERNEST GRECUA, assistant to Hartford Theatres general manager AL SCHUMAN, is vacationing at Westport, Conn.

IRVING HELFON, assistant to M-G-M's Midwestern sales manager BURTUS BISHOP, JR., returned here yesterday from Chicago.

CHARLES DEESEN, assistant to M-G-M's Central sales manager JOHN J. MALONEY, has returned from an up-state vacation.

MITCHELL RAWSON of M-G-M's publicity department returned from a Saratoga Springs vacation yesterday.

RUSSELL STEWART, M-G-M publicist, left here yesterday for Washington.

MAURICE GOLDSTEIN, Monogram general sales manager, was in Boston over the weekend.

JULIA EATON has been appointed assistant manager at the Warner Theatre, Lynn, Mass.

Ohio ITO Convention Set for Sept. 14-15

COLUMBUS, O., Aug. 23.—Film rentals, television, Ascap and state and municipal taxes are among the topics which will be discussed at the Independent Theatre Owners of Ohio convention to be held here Sept. 14-15 at the Deshler-Wallick Hotel, according to P. J. Wood, secretary of the organization.

N.J. Allied To Weigh Sales Plans Tomorrow

A general discussion of the M-G-M selling plan, the Andy W. Smith, Jr., conciliation plan, and film prices and terms in general will take place here tomorrow at a special emergency meeting of Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey. Edward Lachman, president of the organization, issued the call for the meeting yesterday.

Alvin Gross Promoted

MILWAUKEE, Aug. 23.—Alvin W. Gross, office manager for M-G-M in Milwaukee, has been promoted to the sales department of the same branch. William Schwartz, up to now booker in Detroit, succeeds Gross as office manager here.

3 More Productions Scheduled by Regal

Plans for three more pictures to follow its initial production, "Pitfall," now in release, have been made by Regal Films, Dick Powell, the independent company's vice-president, disclosed here yesterday.

"Pitfall," of which Powell is star as well as co-producer, will be followed on the production schedule by "Mrs. Mike," based on the novel of the same name. The film, down for a November start, will be budgeted at about \$100,000, according to Powell, who again will serve as co-producer. No release deal has been set.

"Cry Danger" and "Breakaway," both originals, are other films on Regal's program. Powell will be starred in both.

Springer Advises on Advertising Values

"A manager's most important job is to see that he receives full dollar value on any advertising he places," J. R. Springer, general theatre manager of Century Theatres here, advises in a bulletin to the circuit's managers.

Make certain the proper media is used, he further states, and he urges that the cooperative advertising be stressed. "Good taste" in promotion also was emphasized by Springer.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center

"A DATE WITH JUDY"

Wallace BEERY • Jane POWELL
Elizabeth TAYLOR • Carmen MIRANDA
Xavier CUGAT • Robert STACK
A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

ALAN DONNA
LADD REED

BEYOND GLORY

A Great Love Story That Comes Sliding Through

in Person **MARTHA TILTON**
—JAN MURRAY
—RUBY CAROLANAS
Extra Added Attraction: **RAY EBERLE** And His Billy Manted

PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

ROY DEL RUTH'S **"THE BABE RUTH STORY"**

Starring **BENDIX-TREVOR**

An Allied Artists Production

ASTOR 45TH ST. Cont. Performances • Pop Price

RKO Presents

GEORGE RAFT WILLIAM BENDIX MARILYN MAXWELL
IN
"RACE STREET"

BRANDT'S Cool **MAYFAIR** 7th Ave. & 47th St.



FBI TEAMS UP WITH SCOTLAND YARD TO AVENGE THE MURDER OF A G-MAN!



COLUMBIA PICTURES presents

WALK A CROOKED MILE

starring **Louis HAYWARD • Dennis O'KEEFE**

with **LOUISE ALLBRITTON**

CARL ESMOND

An EDWARD SMALL Production

Screenplay by George Bruce • Directed by GORDON DOUGLAS • Produced by GRANT WHYTOCK

True-to-life...
on-the-spot...
heart-in-mouth
realism!

YOUTH MONTH
SALUTING YOUNG AMERICA

British Jews Assail Boycott of Films

LONDON, Aug. 23.—Attempts by the Sons of Liberty in the U. S. to conduct a boycott of British goods, including motion pictures, have been termed "ineffectual" and "irresponsible" by spokesmen for Britain's most representative Jewish organizations. Zionists here maintain that the boycott is hampering them in their efforts to obtain recognition of the Israeli government by Britain, while officials of other Jewish groups, such as the Anglo-Jewish Association and the Board of Deputies of British Jews, along with the *Jewish Chronicle*, insist that the campaign is resented by this country's Jews and is damaging Anglo-American relations.

Meanwhile, Sir Alexander Korda has announced that he is withholding three September releases and that no more films will be sent by his London Film Productions to the U. S. until "the trouble blows over." He indicated he may bring the matter up for discussion with Eric Johnston, Motion Picture Association of America president, who is here for conferences on the quota.

U.S. Firms to Appeal Fines in Argentina

The eight American film companies charged with having violated Argentina's rules on declaring earnings and values of prints will take an appeal from that country's executive order fining them \$450,000, it was reported at the offices here of the Motion Picture Association of America. The companies intend to charge that the decrees issued by Argentine President Juan Peron and Ramon Careijo, Minister of Finance, are "discriminatory and excessive."

In 20th Toronto Post

Peter Myers has been appointed manager of the 20th Century-Fox Toronto exchange, it was announced here yesterday by Andy W. Smith, Jr., general sales manager. He succeeds Harry J. Bailey, resigned. Myers, 32, was formerly branch manager for Eagle-Lion and Monogram in Canada.

Halts Political Newsreels

MEXICO CITY, Aug. 23.—Complaint that Mexican newsreels are giving certain government officers too much footage has prompted the government to order the elimination of such personal "advertising."

Johnston Gets

(Continued from page 1)

features to the second half of double bill programs in his theatres, at arbitrarily stated playing terms, will come up for discussion. Under such an arrangement, Rank's theatres could go far toward complying with the new quota by pairing weak British product, as first features, with strong American releases on the lower half of the bills drawing the customers.

To Seek Joint Action on French

Johnston also will discuss with Rank the possibilities of joint action with respect to the new French tax. John Davis, Rank's chief aide; Joyce O'Hara Johnston's assistant, and F. W. Allport of the MPAA here, will attend the dinner.

Johnston described his visit here as "purely exploratory" and said he hopes to meet with industry leaders and Cabinet members. He plans to be here about a week, going on to the Continent thereafter.

Despite widespread rumors to the contrary, Johnston is satisfied that it will be impossible to get changes in the new quota law, which will become effective Oct. 1. However, it is obvious that he will attempt, at least, to prepare the groundwork for a reduction in the quota at the end of its first year, October, 1949. His position is

strengthened by the British exhibitor view that the present quota will prove impracticable.

Johnston's plane arrived here five hours late due to an engine fire at Gander, Newfoundland. He repeated the statement he made prior to his departure from New York last Friday that James A. Mulvey of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers was unable to accompany him on this trip because of a difference in viewpoint among SIMPP members on adoption of the MPEA plan for Britain. He said that Samuel Goldwyn, David Selznick and Walter Wanger were in favor of the plan but that United Artists' producers were violently opposed to it.

Johnston has arranged to meet with Harold Wilson, president of the Board of Trade, at Oxford next Sunday. Yesterday he met with Lionel Curtiss and later with Lord Vansittart.

Says Boycotts Are 'Disgusting'

Johnston told reporters that he knew little of the activities of the Sons of Liberty and that, in any event, he is strenuously opposed to all boycotts which in his view are "disgusting." The Sons of Liberty have championed boycotts of British pictures playing in the United States.

Johnston denied reports here that Hollywood members of the Anglo-American Joint Films Council had refused to meet with British members of the Council.

Propose New Salary Scale in Argentina

American film companies in Argentina have offered to revise wage scales in that country so that they would be on the same level with salaries paid by native Argentine producers and distributors or those paid by the government to its employees, according to the Motion Picture Association of America here. Labor organizations in Argentina had asked a 25 per cent boost. The U. S. companies have 1,000 full-time employees and 1,500 on part time.

20th To Represent

(Continued from page 1)

president of RKO, and Phil Reisman, foreign chief.

The agreement covers all RKO films, including product from independent producers releasing through the company, as well as pictures made in England. RKO heretofore released in South Africa through franchise holders.

SIMPP Group Wary

(Continued from page 1)

the MPAA. The independents feel, it is said, that an MPEA in England would mean additional channels through which money from England must flow and they fear, because of the limited output of their individual companies, they would realize little profit when earnings for the major companies' films come into account.

Such collective bargaining was rejected by a majority of members of the SIMPP at three meetings on the Coast last week. It was following the third one that James Mulvey, who represents SIMPP in such matters, was advised not to join Eric A. Johnston, MPAA president, on the latter's current trip to London. Mulvey declined to comment.

It is known that some of the independents believe they are not adequately protected in the new agreement with France, which has yet to be finalized, and which has been protested by Walt Disney Prod. Feeling here is that the quota of 110 pictures for the French market will mean benefits for the principal companies, with the independents slighted.

The independents were agreeable to the British pact of last March to which they were a party, but in this instance no limit was placed on the number of pictures allowed in the British market.

Film 'Third Man' Abroad

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 23.—Filming of "The Third Man," starring Joseph Cotten and Valli, will begin in Vienna in the latter part of September, it was announced today by Carol Reed and Graham Greene, British producer-director and author, respectively, of the film, before they planed back to London following script and production conferences with David O. Selznick here. It is the first of four pictures to be made jointly in Europe by Selznick and Sir Alexander Korda.

Europe Hedging

(Continued from page 1)

U. S. pictures in their country, but admitted that he was unable to finalize an arrangement during his trip.

Negotiations with the Hungarian Film Bureau are still going on, Maas reported, and he is hopeful that an agreement will be reached shortly.

Maas assailed as discriminatory and a violation of international agreements to which Holland was a signatory, that country's 40-week playing stipulation for U. S. pictures. Upon it, he said, MPEA could not establish a much-desired show-case in The Hague, while the British, who are guaranteed 12 weeks and have "a shot" at many more, could.

MPEA's outlook in Austria is "good," Maas said. Queried on recent press dispatches from Washington that the late Father Flanagan (of "Boys Town" in Nebraska) told the U. S. Army that a bad influence on Austrian youth had been exercised by crime, detective and adventure films from Hollywood, Maas said that if it is true, the Army must share the blame since it passed on all pictures shown in Austria.

Father Flanagan Memorial Fund Discussion Set by Albany Variety

ALBANY, N. Y., Aug. 23.—Albany Variety Club will discuss at its first autumn meeting, in September, the contribution it will make toward a memorial statue which the Variety Clubs of America will erect for the late Father Flanagan at Boys Town, Neb. Albany chief barker Harry Lamont has received from the national organization headquarters notification that it plans an "enduring memorial" for the priest who received Variety's "Humanitarian Award."

World Scope for 'Thumb'

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 23.—In the midst of all the pessimism about the world market situation George Pal has announced that "The Adventures of Tom Thumb," his forthcoming Technicolor initial feature for United Artists release, will get full international attention. Film will be given a saturation servicing in 14 world-girdling language versions, he said.


New Mexican Film Firm

MEXICO CITY, Aug. 23.—Fernando Soler, veteran picture star, and Jaime Menache have founded a film production company which will start its first picture in October.

THE LATEST WORD ON **ROPE:**

"It rates rounds of applause!"

—LOUIS SOBOL



LAFF BEGINS

ON

'K'-DAY!

Plenty Sizzling MUSIC TOO!

Tuesday, August 24, 1948

WB, Thackrey Ask FCC Bar on Motion

WASHINGTON, Aug. 23.—Warners and Dorothy S. Thackrey asked the Federal Communications Commission today to turn down a motion of the Southern California Television Co. for a breakdown of the price Warner proposes to pay for three Thackrey radio properties on the West Coast.

Warner has asked FCC approval of its acquisition from Thackrey for \$5,000 of a standard broadcasting station in San Francisco, a standard station in Los Angeles and a television construction permit in Los Angeles. Southern California said it wanted a breakdown since it wanted to bid for the television permit.

Warner and Thackrey said today all negotiations had been on an "all or none" basis and that they could not break down the price. They declared that Southern California had not disclosed its principals, and pointed out that discussions on an "all or none" basis had been held with representatives of Ed Pauley, assumed to be the chief stockholder of Southern California.

Poll S.P.G. Members On Taft-Hartley Law

A referendum of the members of the Screen Publicists Guild was held here last night on the question of whether the union's present position of non-compliance with the voluntary provisions of the Taft-Hartley Law should be maintained. Results will be announced next month.

In calling for the referendum, the general executive board of the United Office and Professional Workers of America declared that compliance "would seriously weaken our fight with the major companies to secure salary and contract gains."

Study FCC Right

(Continued from page 1)

that the Commission would be without authority after Sept. 1 to lay down such rules, since the legal authorization on which the rules are based was transferred by the last Congress from the Communications Act to the Criminal Code, effective Sept. 1. Under the Criminal Code, enforcement will be up to the Justice Department, not the FCC, Petty said.

This contention was immediately picked up by a special House committee investigating the FCC, and the committee's counsel asked the FCC what it proposed to do about this.

SPG To Ask

(Continued from page 1)

with overtime pay for all hours beyond seven in one day, and improved merit-review machinery.

Among the factors held by SPG to merit the increases is the more difficult selling job publicists and advertising men will have in the face of declining box-office revenue, SPG says. Other factors are the rise in cost of living and increased experience of publicists.

Louisville Price Rise

LOUISVILLE, Aug. 23.—Several Louisville neighborhood theatres recently increased their admission prices from 26 cents for adults and 12 cents for children, to 30 and 15 cents, respectively.

New York Grosses

(Continued from page 1)

chalked up \$92,000 Thursday through Sunday, actually exceeding the take over the previous weekend by about \$150.

"Beyond Glory" is holding up well at the Paramount where \$70,000 is indicated for the third week. Peggy Lee and Ray Eberle's orchestra are among those on the stage. At the Roxy, "Walls of Jericho" with Dick Haymes and an ice revue took a substantial \$82,000 in its final six days, one day short of a full third week. The show bowed out last night to make way for "Lady in Ermine" which will be accompanied on stage by Frances Langford, Jon Hall, Jerry Colonna and another ice show.

"Easter Parade" continues as a profitable tenant at the State. Business is down to \$32,000 but good for the eighth week. "Loves of Carmen" is to follow on Sept. 2. Fifth and final week of "So Evil My Love" should give the Rivoli a fair \$20,000. "Velvet Touch" is next, bowing in tomorrow. "Gung Ho" and "Eagle Squadron," reissue combination, still is great at the Rialto which figures on \$12,500 for a third week. The show holds for a fourth. "Key Largo" is slipping but still good at \$45,000 for a sixth week at the Strand. Court Basie and Billie Holliday are in person there.

"Tap Roots" will make its debut at the Criterion tomorrow following "Abbott and Costello Meet Frankenstein." The latter winds up its fourth and final week tonight with a fairish \$17,000 in view. "Mr. Peabody and the Mermaid" is mild at the Winter Garden with \$15,000 apparent for a second week. "Babe Ruth Story" looks like \$20,000, adequate, for a fourth week at the Astor. "Escape" probably will give the Globe a poor \$6,500 in its last five days, second week. "The Rope" will open there on Thursday.

Cutting Clearance In Salt Lake City

SALT LAKE CITY, Aug. 23.—Clearance between first and second-run situations have been cut in half by at least one distributor in the Salt Lake City area, while others have slashed the time to some extent. RKO Radio, 20th Century-Fox and M-G-M have reduced clearance between downtown and neighborhood houses and between first and second-run theatres downtown by at least 30 days. Paramount is following its nationwide policy of reducing clearances where warranted.

Drive-ins are also receiving more favorable attention.

Fix Deadline

(Continued from page 1)

Justice because of the job involved in accumulating the extensive and detailed information required by the Government. The companies have been feeding the information to the Department of Justice piecemeal.

Such questions as the "Big Five" object to will be argued in U. S. District Court here.

The interrogatories are an initial move by the Government to secure vital data on the theatre interests of the defendants in the Paramount case.

Hearings on the anti-trust case are scheduled to be resumed Oct. 13.

Walsh Leaves Warners

Everett Walsh, director of Warners home office art department, has resigned, effective Sept. 10, to free-lance, after three years with the company.

"HOLLOW TRIUMPH" BREAKS 6-YEAR BOX-OFFICE RECORD!

PA460
P.RDA493 NL PD=READING PENN 18=
W J HEINEMAN
=EAGLE LION FILMS 165 WEST 46 ST NYK:
=WELL IT LOOKS LIKE EAGLE LION HAS DONE IT AGAIN AND HAS ANOTHER BOX OFFICE WINNER. HOLLOW TRIUMPH WORLD PREMIERED HERE TODAY AT ASTOR THEATRE AND BROKE EVERY HOUSE RECORD FOR PAST SIX YEARS. NOT INCLUDING HOLIDAYS, IN SPITE OF BIG OPPOSITION AND MAJOR ATTRACTIONS OF READING BICENTENNIAL WITH WATER FOLLIES AND NAME STARS. AUDIENCE REACTION TO HOLLOW TRIUMPH WONDERFUL. PAUL HENREID HAS GREAT FEMALE DRAW. JOAN BENNETT GIVES FINE PERFORMANCE. KEEP UP WITH BIG BOX OFFICE PICTURES. ADVERTISING AND CAMPAIGN WAS OF INESTIMABLE VALUE. THANKS. BEST WISHES=
JAY EMANUEL=.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY
E-L's 'Triumph' Bows At Reading Fete
READING, Pa., Aug. 18.—Eagle-Lion's "Hollow Triumph" grossed \$2,100 at its world premiere today, breaking all opening day records at the Astor Theatre.

Along the RIALTO
with PHIL M. DALY
Friday Fadeout
● You have the wired word of Lester Stallman, manager of the Reading, Pa. Astor, that it wasn't a three-year record that Eagle Lion's "Hollow Triumph" broke there Wednesday, but actually a six-year mark for a non-holiday opening gross. Lester telegraphs this meant topping the biz done by the house with such h.o. honeys as "Brute Force," "Naked City," "Farmer's Daughter," "Kid From Brooklyn," "Notorious," "Tycoon" and "Tap Roots"..... "Looks like a winner," adds Lester..... Sounds like an understatement, what?

PAUL HENREID · JOAN BENNETT

HOLLOW TRIUMPH

EDUARD FRANZ · LESLIE BROOKS · JOHN QUALEN
MABEL PAIGE · HERBERT RUDLEY
Produced by PAUL HENREID Directed by STEVE SEKELY
Screenplay by DANIEL FUCHS · Based Upon a Novel by MURRAY FORBES
An EAGLE LION FILMS Picture

"SOLID ENTERTAINMENT!"
—MOTION PICTURE HERALD

"WILL WARM THE HEARTS OF ALL!"
—BOXOFFICE

"Worthy of an exhibitor's best exploitation effort!"

—Harrison's Reports



MONOGRAM PICTURES presents
GENE STRATTON-PORTER'S

MICHAEL O'HALLORAN

A WINDSOR PRODUCTION

starring
SCOTTY BECKETT **ALLENE ROBERTS**
Your discovery of "The Jolson Story" You loved her in "The Red House"

with
TOMMY COOK · ISABEL JEWELL
Produced by JULIAN LESSER and FRANK MELFORD
Directed by John Rawlins Screenplay by Erna Lazarus
Based on the novel by Gene Stratton Porter

**TWICE AS THRILLING
AS THE BOOK THAT WON
A MILLION HEARTS!**

Showmen know
that today's
public wants
wholesome
entertainment
for the entire
family...
AND HERE IT IS!

**It's a MONEY HIT
from MONOGRAM!**

Accurate
Concise
and
Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

MR. ERIC JOHNSTON,
MOTION PICTURE ASSOC. OF
AMERICA,
28 WEST 44TH ST., 21ST FL.
NEW YORK, N. Y.

FIRST
IN
FILM
NEWS

64. NO. 39

NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 25, 1948

TEN CENTS

Yates Favors 'Pulling Out' Of UK Market

**Holds 1949 Remittances
Won't Exceed \$20 Million**

Convinced that in 1949 the U. S. industry will not take out of Britain more than \$20,000,000, or 25 per cent of 1947 remittances, Herbert J. Yates, president of Republic said yesterday that he would favor the American industry's "pulling out" of the British market at once in light of the recently-enacted 45 per cent film quota law.

Acknowledging that he did not believe the presidents of the other U. S. companies shared his un-

(Continued on page 4)



Herbert J. Yates

Exports Declined In 1st Half of '48

WASHINGTON, Aug. 24.—Exports of motion picture films and equipment during the first six months of 1948 were off considerably from the record levels of the first half of 1947, according to a report by Commerce Department film chief Nathan D. Golden.

Raw stock exports registered the

(Continued on page 4)

Johnston Sees Rank; Visits U.S. Embassy

London, Aug. 24.—The dinner meeting here last night of Eric A. Johnston, Motion Picture Association of America president, and J. Arthur Rank was described by both parties today as having resulted in discussions which were extremely useful in clearing the air on several questions. However, no detailed statement was issued by either.

Johnston had conferences today with American Embassy officials here.

Yates Says Republic Stock Not For Sale

Denying reports that potential buyers are making specific attempts to acquire from him the controlling interest in Republic, company president Herbert J. Yates declared yesterday that he and his family would not sell their holdings for \$5,000,000, a figure he admitted was out of all proportion to the true worth of the securities.

Yates said he has "no desire" to sell now but that in "two or three years, when prices are right," he might be willing to sell.

Will Rogers Hospital Drive Starts Here

The industry drive to save the Will Rogers Memorial Hospital got under way in New York yesterday at a luncheon in the Hotel Astor at which local exhibitor leaders and distributor spokesmen pledged all-out cooperation to raise funds to keep the institution alive.

The desperate need of financial support to keep the hospital from going under was stressed by the speakers, who included A. Montague of Columbia; Hank Hearn, operator of a Charlotte booking and buying service who

(Continued on page 5)

WB Gives Up Lease On Cleveland Lake

CLEVELAND, Aug. 24.—Negotiations to renew the lease on the theatre having fallen through, Warner Bros. bowed out of the 714-seat Lake today after 15 years' operation. The future of the house is undetermined.

BUYING COMBINE IS SUED BY SIMPP

1,653 Films Licensed In State Last Year

ALBANY, N. Y., Aug. 24.—A record-breaking collection of \$360,180 in fees and a total of 1,781 pictures reviewed, representing an increase of 120 above the previous year's total, was reported today by Dr. Ward Bowen, acting director of the New York State Education Department's division of motion pictures, which reviews and licenses films for exhibition in the state.

Five films were rejected, eliminations made in 123 and 1,653 approved in the fiscal year ended last March 31, according to Dr. Bowen. Combined footage of pictures reviewed was 6,845,104, compared with 5,966,168 feet for the 1946-47 period, while the number of prints licensed was 28,763 during 1947-48, as against 30,578 in the previous year, he said. Fees, based on footage, increased by \$10,420.

Leading the list of 23 countries represented in 482 foreign pictures reviewed was Mexico with 135. France was second with 52, England third with 50 and Italy fourth with 47.

U. A. Board Meet on Hughes' Pictures

A special meeting of the United Artists board of directors has been called for tomorrow to consider a proposed agreement for the relinquishment by U. A. of its distribution rights to Howard Hughes' "The Outlaw," "Vendetta" and "Mad Wednesday," in return for undisclosed considerations from Hughes and RKO Radio, which would get the distribution rights.

Mich. Cooperative Linked With United Detroit In \$8,750,000 Action

Dissolution of both the Paramount-controlled United Detroit Theatres and Cooperative Theatres of Michigan, independent buying-bookings combine, is demanded by the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers and several of its individual members in an anti-trust suit filed in Federal Court, Detroit, yesterday which charges the defendants with conspiring to effect illegal control over the terms and conditions under which product must be licensed in the Detroit area.

The action is claimed to be without precedent in the industry and through it the SIMPP serves notice on other circuits and combines throughout the country that it may not be the last of

(Continued on page 5)

AFM Again Delays Presenting Terms

A third meeting of company and union representatives yesterday still failed to produce a formal list of demands to be made upon the employers by the American Federation of Musicians in negotiations for a new agreement covering studio instrumentalists. Expectations are that the proposals of the AFM will be placed in the hands of the company spokesmen at a meet-

(Continued on page 2)

Sees No Remittances From U.K. Until '49

London, Aug. 24. — John Warren, accountant appointed by the Film Agreement Control Committee, is finding it so difficult to apportion the remittable proportion of American earnings here among the companies that he is unable to foresee the possibility of any such remittances until well into 1949.

Meanwhile, discussions concerned with definitions of the agreement are proceeding between American and British representatives with what is described as perfect amiability.

"A Song Is Born"

[Samuel Goldwyn-RKO Radio] — Streamlined Ball of Fire

THEY say it's entertainment the customers are wanting these days — nothing weighty, ponderous, morose or overly mindful of the manifold disturbances of a troubled world. If that's the case, Samuel Goldwyn stands ready with this Danny Kaye and music laden offering in Technicolor to fill the prescription.

It's undiluted entertainment, practically guaranteed not to provoke a serious thought in the entire 113 minutes of its slightly more than ample running time.

"A Song Is Born" actually is a streamlined version, jazz style, of Goldwyn's 1941 production "Ball of Fire." Even to the detail that Howard Hawks, director of the first, also is the director of the picture at hand. The story switch is that the professorial research in the ivory tower which was so rudely interrupted by the worldly Barbara Stanwyck

(Continued on page 5)

Personal Mention

WILLIAM F. RODGERS, M-G-M distribution vice-president, left here last night for Toronto for conferences with **HENRY L. NATHANSON**, head of M-G-M Films of Canada.

ROBERT B. SPAFFORD, JR., former U. S. Navy training films supervisor, has joined RKO Pathe here as assistant to **PHILLIPS BROOKS NICHOLS**, manager of the commercial and television department.

MAX E. YOUNGSTEIN, Eagle-Lion advertising - publicity vice - president, will visit the San Francisco, Portland, Seattle and Salt Lake City exchanges this week. He is due back in New York by the end of the week.

WILLIAM B. ZOELLNER, M-G-M short subject sales head, left Los Angeles yesterday for Pittsburgh to confer with **JOHN J. MALONEY**, Central sales manager.

ED HINCHY, head of the Warner home office playdate department, will leave here today for Washington.

RALPH COHN, Pioneer Pictures president, left New York last night for the Coast.

GRADWELL SEARS, president of United Artists, returned to New York from the Coast yesterday.

H. M. BESSEY, Altec executive vice-president, has returned to New York from a vacation at Nova Scotia.

'Youth Staff' To Run Rivoli for a Day

As part of its observance of Youth Month, from Sept. 1 to 30, the Rivoli Theatre here is to be operated by a "Youth Theatre Staff for a Day."

An essay competition is to be held from which selections for the complete staff of to be made. The competition is open to any boy or girl who writes an essay of 100 words or less on "How I Would Run a Movie Theatre," addressed to Montague Salmon, managing director of the Rivoli. Members of the "staff" will receive "payment" in the form of bonds and other awards.

Ohio Governor Urges 'Youth Month' Aid

Governor Thomas J. Herbert of Ohio this week sent a letter bearing the "Youth Month" stamp on its envelope to all exhibitors in Ohio calling on their active support for "Youth Month" in September, Theatre Owners of America reported here yesterday.

The governor also called attention to "Report for Action," the documentary film financed by TOA as one of the steps in the campaign, and advised its widespread showing to local groups during non-theatrical hours.

Sopeg Forces NLRB To Delay UA Poll

New York regional office of the National Labor Relations Board has been forced to cancel, for the time being at least, the shop election which it had previously scheduled for this Friday among United Artists' home office white collar workers, it was disclosed here yesterday following a new move by the Screen Office and Professional Employees Guild in its three-month-old jurisdictional controversy with IATSE Home Office Employees Local No. H-63.

The SOPEG action causing cancellation of the election, which was arranged to give some 150 "collarites" the opportunity to vote whether they want to be represented by H-63 or "no union," was an appeal to the NLRB in Washington to overrule regional NLRB director Charles T. Douds' ruling disqualifying UA employee Cecilia Schuman as a candidate on the ballot. Douds had held that Miss Schuman, in seeking ballot recognition, was acting in behalf of SOPEG, which cannot appear on the ballot because it has not complied with the non-Communist affidavit provisions of the Taft-Hartley Law.

SOPEG's complaint against Douds must be ruled on by the NLRB in a judicial capacity at Washington, it was explained. H-63 spokesmen were known to have feared "another delaying move" by SOPEG, and actually had looked for it in the form of an application for a court injunction against the holding of the election. Commenting on the latest SOPEG move, Russell Moss, H-63 business agent, observed yesterday: "For an outfit that claims to hate the Taft-Hartley Law so much, SOPEG certainly has used every 'out' it could find in the act to prevent a decent, democratic election among the employees of UA."

H-63, Pathe Industries Begin New Contract Talks Today

Wage increases, shorter hours and improved working conditions will be sought for Pathe Industries white collar employees at Bound Brook, N. J., and New York by IATSE Motion Picture Home Office Employees Local No. H-63 in new contract negotiations which will begin with company officials today, it was disclosed here yesterday by Russell Moss, H-63 business agent. Moss will head the H-63 negotiations contingent and Nick Trolone, Pathe Laboratories vice-president, will head the company group.

Poll Sopeg Members On New Contract Tonight

The membership of the Screen Office and Professional Employees Guild will vote here tonight on new contract demands and also on the question of whether the union's present position of non-compliance with the voluntary provisions of the Taft-Hartley Law should be continued.

One of the main contract issues to be voted upon is whether demands should be for 20 or 25 per cent increases. Other issues to be polled cover merit reviews, job classifications and grievance machinery.

J. F. Chalmers Dead; M.P. World Publisher

Greenwich, Conn., Aug. 24.—John F. Chalmers, for many years publisher of the *Moving Picture World*, prior to its merger with *Exhibitors Herald* in 1928, died here Aug. 20 after a six months' illness. He was 79 years old. Private funeral services were held yesterday. Interment was at Kensico Cemetery, Valhalla, N. Y.

The *Moving Picture World* was founded by the deceased's brother, the late James P. Chalmers, Jr., in 1907.

Winners in Second Lap of U-I Drive

M. M. Gottlieb of Chicago topped district managers in the second round of the Universal-International Presidential Sales Drive. Eugene Vogel, Albany, led branch managers in the East; Irving Sochin, Cincinnati, in the South; L. R. Berman, Chicago, in the West.

Winning salesmen were Arthur Rose, Buffalo, in the Eastern division; Harry Hynes, Jr., St. Louis, in the South; Ted Reisch, Chicago, in the West.

SPG Members Reject T-H Law Compliance

The membership of the Screen Publicists Guild has voted 125 to 44 against complying with the voluntary provisions of the Taft-Hartley Law, it was announced here yesterday. The vote was part of a national referendum now being conducted by the United Office and Professional Workers of America.

AFM Delays

(Continued from page 1)

ing this afternoon at the New York headquarters of the union.

Most of the time since the start of negotiations a week ago is understood to have been devoted to a discussion of living problems faced by Coast musicians. These discussions have been spearheaded by James C. Petrillo, AFM president.

Doubt as to legality of certain AFM demands under the Taft-Hartley law is suggested as a possible reason for Petrillo's delay in presenting his proposals to the companies.

Moss Name Changed

ALBANY, N. Y., Aug. 24.—The Paul F. Moss Associates, Inc., New York, has changed its corporate name to International Tele-film Productions. Howard E. Reinhammer was the attorney.

Another Video Applicant

DETROIT, Aug. 24.—The Grandwood Broadcasting Co. has applied to the Federal Communications Commission for permission to establish a commercial television station in Grand Rapids.

Newsreel Parade

THE recall of Consul General Lomakin and the arrival of Axis Sally mark current newsreel highlights. Human interest stories and sports are among the other items that round out the reels. Complete contents follow:

MOVIEZONE NEWS, No. 68—Treason trials face Axis Sally and Tokyo Rose. U. S. demands recall of Lomakin in treason case. Australia supports U.N. appeal to aid orphans. Invasion tactics shown in landing on Virginia coast. Football: professional Chicago Cardinals defeat college All-Stars. U. S. defeats France in swim meet. Expert maneuvers displayed in sailing regatta.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 302—Defense chiefs meet. U. S. takes stern action in case of Red teacher. Treason trials for Axis Sally and Tokyo Rose. China sets up Boys' Town. Fur fashions preview. Sports thrills.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 105—Mid-dies, cadets in amphibious test. Cologne Cathedral reopens for 700th anniversary. Secretary Forrestal talks defense. Axis Sally arrives. Grid preview. Seattle sail classic.

UNIVERSAL NEWS, No. 172—Joint chiefs of staffs in hush-hush meeting. Recall of Russian Consul General demanded. Axis Sally arrives here. Outstanding daughters chosen. Miss Canada crowned. Fall fur fashions. All-Star football game. Motorcycle hill climb. Rodeo.

WARNER PATHE NEWS, No. 3—Army-Navy war games. People in the news: U. S. top brass; Arab commander; Tokyo Rose; Axis Sally; Miss Canada. German crowds protest prices. Shanghai Boys' Town. Fur fashions for '49. Sports: All-Star game; Paris swim meet.

NBC to Open Midwest Video Web Sept. 20

DETROIT, Aug. 24.—National Broadcasting Midwest Television network, comprising Station WWJ-TV, *The Detroit News*, and four other television stations, will begin regular program operations Sept. 20, I. E. Showerman, NBC vice-president, announced today.

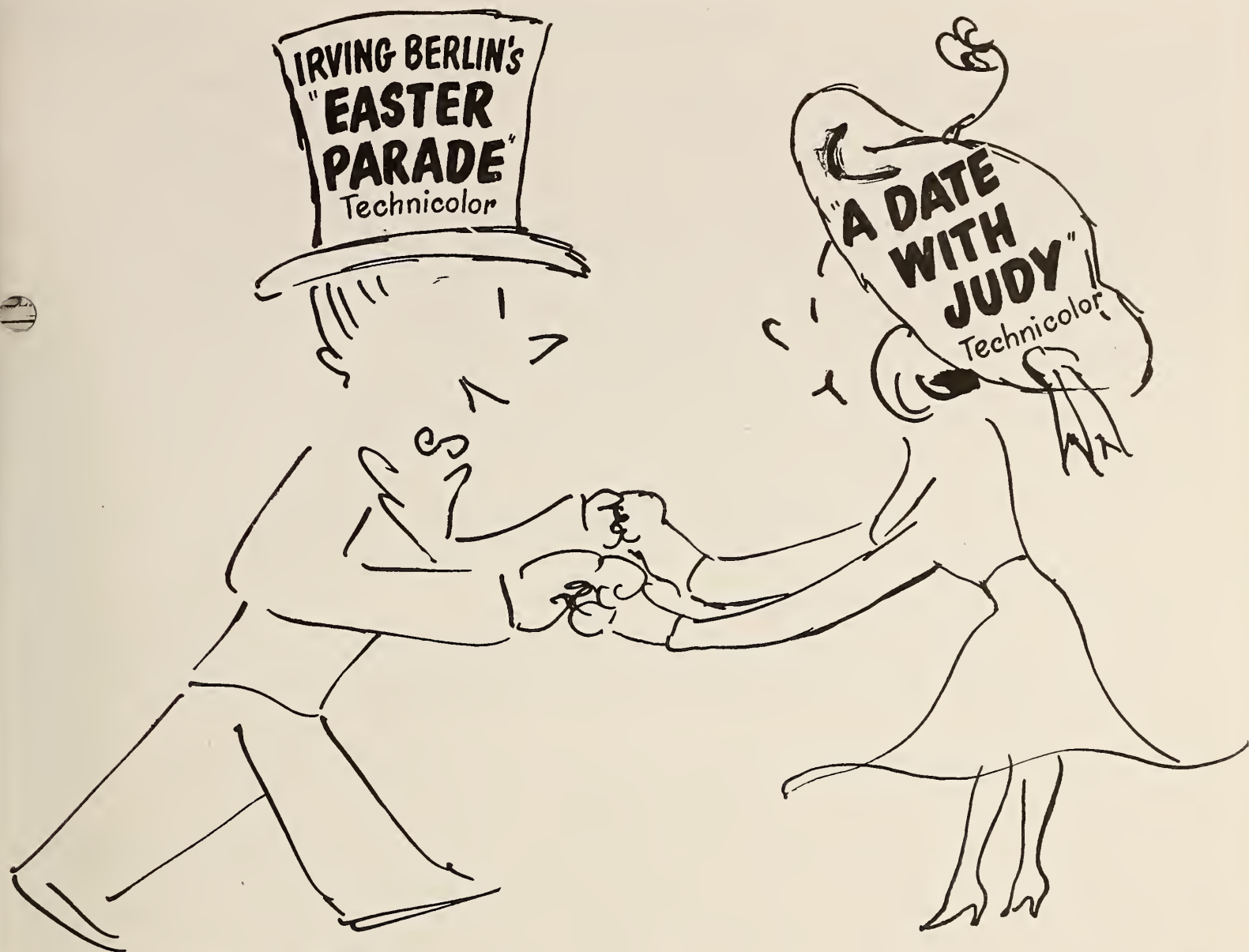
In addition to WWJ-TV, the original members of the Midwest network will be KSD-TV, St. Louis; WTMJ-TV, Milwaukee; WSFD-TV, Toledo, and WBEN-TV, Buffalo.

Para. Wins Grant of Video Relay at L. A.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 24.—The Federal Communications Commission today granted Paramount Television Productions, Inc., a license and construction permit for a new experimental television relay broadcast station in the Los Angeles area. The relay station will be used in connection with Paramount's Los Angeles video station.

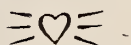
Two Cited Win Delay

WASHINGTON, Aug. 24.—The U. S. Court of Appeals has given attorneys for film writers Dalton Trumbo and John Howard Lawson until Sept. 30 to file their briefs appealing the writers' conviction in District Court here for contempt of Congress. Defense lawyers had asked an extra 30 days. This gives the Government until Oct. 30 to file its answering brief.



**HELLO KID! WELCOME
TO THE BIG TIME!**

Yes, it's really wonderful the way M-G-M's "A DATE WITH JUDY" is coming along in the "Easter Parade" manner in all its first engagements. The phenomenal run at Radio City Music Hall, where its FIRST 2 WEEKS ARE A NEW ALL-TIME M-G-M HIGH, parallels its rousing nationwide box-office reception. Have you had your Vitamin M-G-M today?



M-G-M presents "A DATE WITH JUDY" starring WALLACE BEERY, JANE POWELL, ELIZABETH TAYLOR, CARMEN MIRANDA, XAVIER CUGAT and his Orchestra, ROBERT STACK • Color by TECHNICOLOR • Screen Play by Dorothy Cooper and Dorothy Kingsley • Based on the Characters Created by Aileen Leslie • Directed by RICHARD THORPE • Produced by JOE PASTERNAK.

'Hamlet' To Open at Park Ave. on Sept. 29

Basing its decision on the "tremendous" business being done by J. Arthur Rank's "Hamlet" in Boston, Universal-International has set the release for a roadshow engagement at the Park Avenue Theatre here beginning Sept. 29, William A. Scully, U-I distribution vice-president, announced here yesterday.

Earlier, Scully indicated the company would set its policy on the film after the Boston opening.

Yates on UK

(Continued from page 1)

qualifiedly "get tough" attitude, Yates expressed the opinion that within the "next week or 10 days" the Motion Picture Association "will toss a 'bomb' at the British" in the form of a declaration by MPAA president Eric A. Johnston, who is now conferring with UK officials in London.

Yates, who late last week returned from a nine-week tour of England, France and Italy, emphasized that "something has got to be done," and complained that the presidents of the American film companies "just can't sit back here and disagree." He described as "disastrous" to U. S. films the foreseeable results of the British quota and an alleged plan of J. Arthur Rank and the British government to relegate U. S. product, regardless of quality, to the under half of double bills and to only 20 per cent of the profits.

Ninety per cent of British filmgoers, Yates held, prefer American to British pictures. So do Britain's exhibitors, he added, excepting Rank. "It is unfortunate," he deplored, "that we don't have the U. S. Government back of us, and that therefore it is the U. S. industry pitted against the British government." Eventually, Yates predicted, the British government will be in control of industry finances in that country and then there will have been brought about nationalization of the film industry there.

"We had them licked last time," Yates said, referring to the U. S. companies' embargo of the British market following the imposition of the British

Reviews

"The Secret Land"

(MGM)

Hollywood, Aug. 24

ALTHOUGH theatrical potentialities of this historically important documentary in Technicolor are open to conjecture, it is unquestionably a fine pictorial record of Admiral Richard E. Byrd's 1946-47 exploration of Antarctica. And the fact that Robert Montgomery, Robert Taylor and Van Heflin speak, unseen, the narrative which accompanies and explains the action filmed by Navy, Marine Corps, Army and Coast Guard cameramen on the expedition doubtless warrants appropriate use of those names by exhibitors in billing the attraction. Cooperative exploitation with schools, veteran organizations and civic groups, as well as local newspapers, also may be utilized without fear of disappointing the thus interested parties.

The Byrd expedition is covered photographically, and in careful detail, from the date of its authorization by Secretary Forrestal to completion of the mission. The outfitting of the ships, their voyages to the three points of convergence upon Antarctica, the triumphs over iceberg, polar, gale and frigid temperature, and the exploits of the planes which carried on from where the ships left off, are vividly and sometimes dramatically shown. For a strictly factual film, it works up remarkable interest.

Orville O. Dull is given the production credit, and the commentary was written by Capt. Harvey S. Haislip, U.S.N., retired, and Comdr. William C. Park, U.S.N.R. Bronislau Kaper provided the music score.

Running time, 72 minutes. General audience classification. Release date not set. WILLIAM R. WEAVER

"Night Wind"

(Wurtzel-20th Century-Fox)

THE LATEST vehicle from Sol M. Wurtzel chronicles the efforts of an ex-paratroop dog to avenge the murder of its master by a wartime spy who posed as a brother soldier. The film is tailored along formula lines, but stirs up sufficient action and excitement to make it especially attractive for the juvenile trade.

Returned from the wars, the dog finds a new master in young Gary Gray, and lives contentedly in the country. One day, however, the dog picks up the scent of the enemy agent who killed its previous master. There follow some night forays by the animal which result in it being branded a killer by the community, and a consequent posse set on its trail. The dog is finally captured and is about to be shot when a nick-of-time occurrence reveals the true purpose of its nocturnal prowls.

As an added bit of melodrama, the routine screenplay by Arnold Belgard and Robert G. North tosses in an angle about former enemy intelligence officers snooping about one of our rocket plants with no good in mind. For sentimental touches, Deanna Woodruff is on hand as Gary's younger sister; the boy's parents are portrayed by Virginia Christine and Charles Russell; the canine chores are held up by Flame. James Tinling's direction contrives to keep things moving steadily.

Running time, 68 minutes. General audience classification. Set for October release. MANDEL HERBSTMAN

ad valorem tax. "If we had only held out four months longer," he added, "we really would have had them where we wanted them."

He forecast that no matter what steps the U. S. industry takes now to improve its position in England, the British government will hold out and fight back for a long time. "Britain is in too deep not to retaliate," he said.

Republic distributes in Britain through British-Lion, hence has no overhead there, Yates pointed out in admitting that his company's experience in Britain has not been as severe as those of other U. S. distributors. He said he disagrees with Sir Alexander Korda's statements that U. S. distributors are involved to a degree in the boycott of British films here.

He said Republic plans to open distribution offices in Paris and Rome by the first of next year and will use blocked funds for the purpose.

Republic Will Make 50 Pictures in 1949

Republic will produce 50 pictures next year, the same number as this year, Herbert J. Yates, company president, said yesterday. Twenty-two of next year's total will be Westerns and four will be serials. Twenty of the 50 will be filmed in Trucolor, Yates predicted. He also said Republic will start producing films for television shortly.

Short Subject

"Glamour Street"

(This Is America—RKO Radio)

Picturesque, fashionable, glamorous Fifth Avenue in New York, a thoroughfare whose fame exceeds that of Paris' Champs Elysee, is the subject of this entertaining, enlightening short. New Yorkers as well as audiences in other parts of the country should delight in viewing the mansions, decorous mercantile establishments, Radio City, Washington Square, Central Park and other scenes, including historic parades, which are a part of this street that divides the East Side of town from the West.

Topping off this eye-treat is an effective narration that throws considerable light on the historic and business factors which have made the avenue what it is. Running time, 16 minutes.

French Film Is 'B' As Legion Rates 4

Discina International's "The Damned" (French) has been placed in Class B by the National Legion of Decency in its rating of four pictures this week. Paramount's "Isn't It Romantic?" and M-G-M's "A Southern Yankee" were classified A-I, while Columbia's "The Gentleman from Nowhere" was rated A-II.

Exports Declined

(Continued from page 1)

largest drop, amounting to 194,570,637 linear feet valued at \$3,374,642 for the January-June period this year, compared with 257,270,358 linear feet valued at \$3,748,890 during the like 1947 period.

Shipments of exposed feature films totaled 153,774,676 linear feet, valued at \$4,389,103, in the first six months this year, compared with 160,435,301 linear feet valued at \$4,261,264 last year. Equipment exports dropped from \$7,764,717 last year to \$7,001,325 this year.

A sharp drop in exports of 35mm. positive raw stock accounted for most of the decline in the rawstock category. The 35mm. positive shipments dropped to 124,661,251 linear feet valued at \$1,593,894, in the 1948 first half from 190,865,453 linear feet valued at \$2,047,278 in the 1947 period. Exports of 35mm. negative rawstock were practically unchanged, and small gains were recorded in the exports of 16mm. positive and negative unexposed film.

FP-C Buys Drive-ins

TORONTO, Aug. 24.—Acquisition of the two drive-in theatres in the Toronto area from Herb Ochs of Triangle Theatres, Cleveland, by Famous Players-Canadian places the Canadian circuit in the open-air theatre business. Ochs recently opened other drive-ins near Ottawa and at Peterborough.

New Delancey Sold

Joseph Schapiro and Morris Goldman have leased from Lanroc Operating Corp. the 1,800-seat New Delancey Theatre here, it is reported by Berk and Krumgold, realty specialists, who consummated the deal.

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Combine Sued "A Song Is Born"

(Continued from page 1)

such proceedings, according to Robert J. Rubin, general counsel of the society.

"The society is exercising external vigilance as to other tight conditions and reserves and intends to exercise the right to take similar action," he stated here yesterday.

Simultaneous with the filing of the complaint in Detroit, copies were made available to the press in New York and Hollywood. In New York, Rubin conducted a press conference on the subject in company of James Mulvey, Eastern distribution chairman of the SIMPP, and Joseph Alvin, director of public relations.

Hudson, Sharkey Named

Combined treble damages of \$8,750,000 are asked. Also named as defendants are Earl J. Hudson, head of United Detroit, and James F. Sharkey, manager of Cooperative Theatres of Michigan.

Joined with the society as plaintiffs are the companies of Walt Disney, Samuel Goldwyn, Benedict Bogeaus, Seymour Nebenzal, Edward Small, Hunt Stromberg, David O. Selznick, William and James Cagney and Walter Wanger.

United and Cooperative are accused of determining among themselves the terms and conditions under which they will license product and are alleged to agree that neither will compete against the other to raise the rental.

The basis of the complaint is an alleged agreement between the defendants in violation of the Sherman and Clayton Acts under which United acquired the best first-run houses in the Detroit area; United allegedly obtains first-run product on a non-competitive

in the first, had to do with the compilation of an encyclopedic history of American slang, whereas in this offering, it is Virginia Mayo who sidetracks a history of music.

In his pursuit of the lowdown on jazz and its modern offshoots, the professorial Kaye comes upon such exponents of tricky rhythms as Benny Goodman, Tommy Dorsey, Louis Armstrong, Lionel Hampton, Charlie Barnet, Mel Powell, Buck & Bubbles, the Page Cavanaugh Trio, the Golden Gate Quartet and Russo and the Samba Kings.

He also comes upon Miss Mayo, night club singer, who happens to be dodging the cops who want to question her in connection with a gangland murder of which her boy friend is suspected. She uses the professorial study house as a hideout and completely captivates Kaye to ensure her being permitted to remain there.

Her duplicity is uncovered when Steve Cochran, as the suspected murderer, attempts to marry her because a wife can't be made to testify against her husband. By then, Miss Mayo is genuinely in love with Kaye and considerable farcical melodramatics are required to bring the two together despite gangland guns.

KAYE, bereft of his familiar zany dancing and singing specialties, plays the guileless professor in a way that may make the changeover popular with those who were about sated with his earlier roles. It is quite a departure, too, from the way Gary Cooper played the same role in "Ball of Fire."

Miss Mayo is excellent as the night club singer and supporting roles are ably filled by Hugh Herbert, J. Edward Bromberg, Ludwig Stossel, Felix Bressart, O. Z. Whitehead and Esther Dale. The music and songs are top notch and sure to account for a big boost to ticket sales. The picture is replete with exploitation possibilities. It may even be banned in Memphis.

The Technicolor points up the rich production, traditional with Goldwyn. Thomas Monroe and Billy Wilder get the story credit.

Fault may be found with several sequences toward the ending which tend to lag. It may also be regretted that several lines and situations are not what parents would order for all the teen-agers who will be drawn by the picture's musical bait.

Running time, 113 minutes. Adult classification, Release date, Nov. 6.

SHERWIN KANE

basis; United and Cooperative control 95 per cent of the principal subsequent theatres in the area; United and Cooperative "combine and pool their licensing power and consult, collaborate and act in concert in the negotiation for the licensing of motion pictures to be shown in their theatres."

By these alleged restraints of trade the independent producers assert that they have been deprived of their rightful share of domestic returns.

They charge further that as a result of the alleged agreement on combined booking power, the two defendants can oppose any licensing deal not agreeable to them and can compel distributors to accept flat rather than percentage licensing contracts.

It is alleged that double-feature programs, predominant in the Detroit area, are played off in United Detroit houses in the same manner as in Cooperative houses. The result is that in Detroit's 64 subsequent runs only four different programs are offered to the public, according to the plaintiffs.

It is charged, moreover, that while clearance between first and second run is generally held to four to six weeks there have been instances where the second run followed the first by as much as eight months. Such a maneuver was described as one to enable the defendants to get licensing terms which they dictated.

Say United Controls 1st Runs

The independents charge that United Detroit controls the first-run situation in downtown Detroit so thoroughly that the distributors of independent pictures cannot deal with other first-run houses without obtaining specific permission from the management of United. Distributors who attempt to license pictures outside the United first-runs are met with reprisals from both United and Cooperative in the form of less advantageous deals in subsequent engagements of the product, the society charges.

The SIMPP charges that Michigan

Cooperative caused separate member theatres to surrender their rights to negotiate for pictures and states that Cooperative holds options to purchase the theatres of members desirous of selling.

The plaintiffs declare that United Detroit operates 16 theatres in the Detroit area, four of them first-runs, and aver that the circuit is 75 per cent-owned and fully controlled by Paramount. The plaintiffs declare that Cooperative comprises 130 houses in the Detroit area.

The defendants ask:

Ask Receivership, Dissolution

An injunction restraining the defendants from further monopolistic practices; receivership for United Detroit and sale of the theatres to independent exhibitors; dissolution of Michigan Cooperative and treble damages said to have been incurred as follows:

Goldwyn Productions, \$1,521,000; Disney, \$974,220; Selznick, \$836,817;

Flat Rental for Crescent Prexy

Nashville, Aug. 24. — R. E. (Elmer) Baulch, president of the Crescent Amusement Co., chalked up a new experience as a theatre operator when he was called upon to change a flat tire for two women patrons of his company's new Murfreesboro drive-in. There was no other theatre hand around at the time.

Will Rogers Hospital

(Continued from page 1)

was a patient at the hospital; Jack Ellis of United Artists and Clarence Eiseman, president of the Film Board of Trade, who heads the industry drive in New York. Eiseman served as toastmaster.

Montague said that the business has a duty to save the hospital because "it is an institution that belongs to the industry." The Columbia distribution chief added that "we must not risk losing the one institution that belongs to us."

Montague said that the success of the drive must be established by November if the industry hopes to have the hospital continue as an institution ministering to the tubercular in show business in need of treatment. He indicated that the prestige of the industry was at stake in the drive to make the hospital financially solvent.

In pleading for financial support for the hospital Hearn described his experiences as a patient there. Ellis warned that should the hospital be allowed to cease operation because of lack of financial support, "it will be to our everlasting discredit."

Herman Gelber, president of IATSE Local 306, operators, pledged the drive the full cooperation of the union.

On the dais in addition to the speakers were Herman Robbins, Charles M. Reagan, Ed Morey, Edmund C. Grainger, Harold Rodner, Robert Mochrie, William Scully, Gus Eysell, William F. Rodgers, James R. Grainger.

Bogeaus, \$808,896; Cagney, \$704,748; Wanger, \$637,500; Small, \$746,844; Reliance Pictures (Small), \$375,000; Empire Productions (Stromberg), \$695,880; Mars Film Corp. (Stromberg), \$403,443; Oakmont Pictures (Stromberg), \$332,968; SIMPP, \$724,500.



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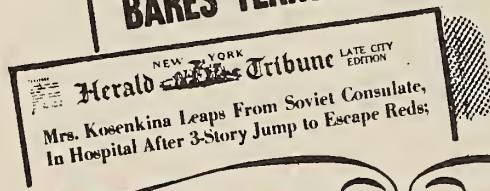
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Ascap Decides To Appeal on Trust Ruling

First Will Seek To Have Some of Language Eased

Ascap has reached a definite decision to appeal the Federal Court ruling holding the society guilty of violating the anti-trust statutes, it was learned here yesterday.

Before the fight is taken to the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals, however, Ascap will seek to have Robert P. Patterson, former Secretary of War serving as special counsel for the society, press for modification of some of the stronger and more sweeping language of Judge Vincent L. Leibel's opinion. Such a move would necessitate conferences with Judge Leibel.

Another development in the Ascap case yesterday was the disclosure that the copyright committee of the Motion Picture Association of America plans to schedule no more meeting discussions of the decision until Judge Leibel has approved a decree based on his findings of fact.

A decree is not expected to be entered for a number of weeks at least. Judge Leibel is not due back from vacation.

(Continued on page 3)

RKO 2nd Quarter Profit: \$556,536

Consolidated net profit of Radio-Keith-Orpheum and subsidiaries for the second quarter of 1948 was \$556,536, after taxes and all other charges, equivalent to approximately 14 cents per share on the 3,899,914 shares of common stock outstanding.

This compares with profit for the second quarter of 1947 of \$2,836,663 (including profit of \$1,603,243 on sale of capital assets, before taxes).

Consolidated net profit for the first

(Continued on page 3)

RKO Board Starts 3-day Coast Meet

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 25. — Final decisions on policy and the program to be presented at the impending annual stockholders' meeting are expected to result from the RKO board meeting which started at the Beverly Hills Hotel today. The meeting, which was

(Continued on page 3)

Ticket Taxes Off \$2 Million

WASHINGTON, Aug. 25.—General admission tax collections in July, reflecting June box-office business, were close to \$2,000,000 below July, 1947, collections, according to figures released today by the Bureau of Internal Revenue.

Only in March and June of this year have 1948 collections exceeded 1947.

This year's July general admissions collection total was \$33,054,712, compared with \$34,972,435 last July.

The general admissions tax figures cover legitimate theatres, sports events, and other admissions as well as film admissions, but do not include roof garden and cabaret tax collections and taxes on various overcharges. The total for all admission tax collections in July, 1948, was \$37,853,846, compared with \$40,233,348 last July.

Colosseum Contract Talks Resume Mon.

Representatives of 11 distributors and the Colosseum of Motion Picture Salesmen of America on Monday will pick up where they left off two weeks ago in negotiations here on the first wages-and-hours contract for the newly-unionized salesmen of the industry.

Colosseum attorney David Beznor and others on the Colosseum bargain-

(Continued on page 3)

NSS Sales Drive To Honor Dembow

With the need for "getting back to showmanship" as its theme, a "George Dembow Tribute Drive" will be launched by National Screen Service in a salute to its distribution vice-president, it was announced yesterday by Herman Robbins, NSS president. The sales drive will start Sept. 13 and will continue through Dec. 31.

Eliminate Prutzman In U-I Stock Suit

Universal-International vice-president and general counsel Charles D. Prutzman yesterday was absolved by Federal Judge Harold R. Medina in U. S. District Court here of charges of improper stock transactions brought against him and four other U-I executives by minority stockholder Stephen Truncale.

Dismissing the suit against Prutzman on motion of defendants' counsel, Mudge, Stern, Williams and Tucker, the jurist held that it was "not to the best interests of Universal that action be maintained" against Prutzman.

The other U-I executives who are charged by Truncale with having violated the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934 are N. J. Blumberg, J. Cheever Cowdin, William A. Scully and Clifford Work. Defense attorneys reportedly are scheduling motions for dismissal of charges against them also.

Goldwyn and Disney Predict More SIMPP Theatre Suits

Samuel Goldwyn yesterday lashed out at circuits which allegedly have tightened competition in restraint of trade and threatened further court action of the type launched in Detroit on Tuesday by the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers against Cooperative Theatres of Michigan and United Detroit Theatres.

Goldwyn asserted in a press statement released in New York that "independents are the heart of motion picture production but monopolies like the Detroit combination, large or small, all over the country, have deprived the independent producers of a free and open market for their pictures. We do not propose to let these illegal practices go unchallenged." He added, there will be "no compromise on the issues."

Walt Disney, joined with Goldwyn in the SIMPP action, in a companion statement expressed the hope that the Government would strike no compromise in its anti-trust action against the film companies. And in referring to the independent producers' "fight for a free screen," Disney further observed:

"Our primary job is to make motion pictures, not to market them. Unfortunately, no matter how much we invest in making the finest pictures, it does not do us or the movie-going public any good so long as we cannot get them shown in the theatres on a fair and just basis. In one place after another we are being discriminated against by competitors who have managed to gain control over whole chains

(Continued on page 3)

U. S. Managers In London at Odds on Plans

Johnston's Efforts at Unanimity Strike Snag

LONDON, Aug. 25.—Wide differences of opinion on the methods of approaching the problems of United States companies in this market were brought into the open at an all-day meeting today of Eric A. Johnston, Motion Picture Association of America president, with resident managers of the American companies here.

The outcome of the meeting was not made known but it was doubtful whether agreement was had in view of the diversity of viewpoints and interests at the meeting. Johnston had met with the American managers for six hours on Monday with equally indecisive results indicated.

In addition, the absence from the current parleys of James A. Mulvey, representative of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, appears to be creating growing em-

(Continued on page 3)

AFM Pact Talks Reach Impasse

An impasse was reached yesterday in the negotiations of producers and James C. Petrillo, president of the American Federation of Musicians, for a new contract covering musicians, arrangers and music copyists employed in Hollywood.

While Petrillo is yet to outline the terms he seeks, it is understood he looks with favor upon a cost-of-living increase which the producers' committee yesterday advised him was "not in the cards." Since the current contract expires Aug. 31, efforts at an accord will be speeded up at a meeting tonight in Petrillo's office.

N. J. Allied, Smith To Meet Next Week

A committee of Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey consisting of Irving Dollinger, George Gold and Wilbur Snaper will confer here with 20th Century-Fox general sales manager Andy W. Smith, Jr., next week on the latter's plan for conciliation of exhibitor-distributor differences, Edward

(Continued on page 3)

Personal Mention

TED R. GAMBLE, Theatre Owners of America president, is scheduled to leave here today for Portland, Ore.

MARIA VINCENTA TROTTA, daughter of VINCENT TROTTA, National Screen Service art director, will be married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Flushing, on Saturday to HAROLD DOUGLAS HALL.

AL RACKIN of A. L. Rackin Associates will leave Hollywood for the East Tuesday as advance man for the ROY ROGERS-DALE EVANS annual rodeo tour which opens in Philadelphia Sept. 2.

MARK N. SILVERS, United Artists assistant Eastern sales manager, and **A**BE DICKSTEIN of home office sales will return to New York from Albany and Gloversville on Monday.

WILLIAM F. RODGERS, Loew's vice-president in charge of distribution, will return to the home office tomorrow from Toronto.

EDDIE CANTOR will begin a speaking tour of 14 major cities this Sunday on behalf of the United Jewish Appeal.

AL HORWITS, Universal-International Eastern publicity manager, leaves New York today for Baltimore, Philadelphia and Atlantic City.

ERNEST MATTSO, president of Scandia Films, Inc., a 35-year veteran in the film import field, will celebrate his 60th birthday today.

JULES K. CHAPMAN, Film Classics assistant general sales manager, celebrates his 25th year in distribution this week.

J. MILLER WALKER, RKO corporation secretary, will leave New York today for a short visit with relatives in Buffalo.

JAMES SHARKEY, general manager of Cooperative Theatres of Michigan, has returned to Detroit from New York.

C. E. O'BRIEN, manager of the Riviera Theatre, Detroit, has returned to that city from a Canadian vacation.

HAROLD BROWN, United Detroit Theatres head booker, has returned to Detroit from a vacation in Northern Michigan.

WILLIAM J. HEINEMAN, Eagle-Lion sales chief, is expected back in New York today from the Coast.

New Iowa Drive-In

CARROLL, Ia., Aug. 25.—The Carroll Drive-in, operated by Cecil Crouse, is scheduled to open here this week. Capacity is 300 autos.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

"THE man is biting the dog," is how Gunther Lessing, chairman of the executive committee of SIMPP, describes that association's anti-trust suit seeking receivership for United Detroit Theatres, dissolution of Cooperative Theatres of Michigan [long-operating booking combine] and \$8,750,000 in treble damages. The description is apt.

Producers like the majors and producers like the independents joined in SIMPP have been, and now are, defendants in a number of trust actions instituted by exhibitors. There have been legal involvements precipitated by the Department of Justice as well. But for a group of producers to reverse what has been the norm by seeking relief from monopolistic tactics charged to theatremen is something new, even under the bright and flashing celluloid sun.

SIMPP'S move, long heralded, nevertheless is arousing great interest, even excitement.

The courts will decide, of course, yet the Detroit step cannot be placed in balance if its evaluation is to be confined within its own boundaries. We believe it reaches beyond and must be appraised in relation to the whole pattern of litigation now pending. Far and away, obviously, is the parent suit of them all—the Government versus Paramount, *et al*—and the sweep of the Supreme Court decision.

SIMPP seeks to have United Detroit dissolved through receivership and a court-ordered sale of its 16 theatres. Therefore, it becomes immediately apparent that Paramount must be drawn into the situation since United Detroit is part of its exhibition family. Since SIMPP claims United Detroit and Cooperative are joined in monopolistic practices, Paramount undoubtedly will be found defending its subsidiary on this count as well.

Thus, while Paramount is not a defendant in the SIMPP suit, it would appear to be inextricably involved, through its relationship with United Detroit. If this assumption is borne out by succeeding events, one of the major targets in the Government suit will be drawn into the line of fire of the Detroit suit. This, then, would become one way through which the litigation localized in Detroit would im-

pinge on the litigation so long contested on the national level and a meshing of issues effected.

Rather colorful phrases are punctuating the scene. States Lessing: "Up to now, the exhibitors have done all the talking about the damage done to them by distributors and the big circuits. We're going to do some talking about the damage being done to the independent producer by the individual exhibitor hooked up into illegal buying combines and tied up with the big circuits as well. . . . You can't have competition where normally competing theatres and circuits form a club and set up 'armchair exhibition'."

"An 'armchair' exhibitor," by Lessing's definition, "is a fellow who signs away his responsibility to pick and choose pictures for his patrons and forgets all about the theatre until it's time to bank the receipts. He's also the fellow who yells the loudest when people get tired of his assembly line pictures and start going to night ball games or looking at the television screen for amusement."

Detroit, SIMPP avers, is operating under a "feed bin" system. Thanks to it, it is claimed, United Detroit and Cooperative control 90 per cent of box-office receipts of the theatres in the alleged system and 90 per cent of all revenue of all Detroit area theatres other than first run. Additionally, it is maintained United Detroit exercises a first run monopoly. SIMPP and its independent producer membership thinks this is wrong and should be broken up.

A THIRD OF A CENTURY AGO: Paramount was giving away for free a 24-sheet plugging its product. . . . Majestic was making noise about "Three Brothers," featuring *Wallace Reid*. In two parts yet. . . . Pathe News was crowing. . . . Universal was advertising for highclass comedy directors. . . . Famous Players viewed 1915 as "the year of realization." . . . *Cecil B. De Mille* had just finished "The Girl of the Golden West" for *Jesse Lasky*. . . . United Film Service [Warner's Features, Inc.] was releasing 200 "big feature films" through 43 exchanges. . . . *Lewis J. Selznick* was preparing to offer World Film stock to exhibitors at \$5 a share.

Coming Events

Aug. 30-Sept. 1—Allied Theatres of Michigan annual convention, Book Cadillac Hotel, Detroit.

Sept. 14-15—Independent Theatre Owners of Ohio convention, Deshler-Wallick Hotel, Columbus, Ohio.

Sept. 14-16—Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners' trustees annual meeting, Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles.

Sept. 16-18—International Variety Clubs' mid-year convention, Statler Hotel, Washington.

Sept. 24-25—Theatre Owners of America convention, Drake Hotel, Chicago.

Sept. 27-30—Theatre Equipment and Supply Manufacturers Association national trade show and convention, Jefferson Hotel, St. Louis.

Sept. 28-29—Kansas-Missouri Theatre Association annual convention, Kansas City.

Oct. 14-15—Independent Theatre Owners of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan annual convention, Schroeder Hotel, Milwaukee.

Oct. 25-29—Society of Motion Picture Engineers semi-annual convention, Statler Hotel, Washington.

Para. Is Buying Its Stock at High Tempo

Paramount last month resumed the purchase of its own common stock on the open market at a sharpened tempo, following the pronounced drop-off in this activity shown by the company in May and June after the U. S. Supreme Court ruled in the industry anti-trust suit.

Last month's purchases amounted to 31,000 shares to bring the total in the company's treasury to 611,133. In May 8,700 shares were bought, and in June, 2,700.

500 'Ruth Story' Prints

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 25.—To meet the "unprecedented demand" for early bookings of Roy Del Ruth's "The Babe Ruth Story," Steve Broidy, Monogram-Allied Artists president, has authorized the making of 200 additional prints, bringing the total to 500, the company said.

F. C. Names Sullivan

Matt Sullivan, United Artists branch manager in Buffalo, N. Y., for more than 18 years, has been appointed Film Classics branch manager in Milwaukee, it was announced here yesterday by B. G. Kranze, Film Classics distribution head. Sullivan succeeds Max Mazur, resigned.

Nasser Buys Story

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 25.—Independent producer James Nasser has bought "You Made Me Love You," original story by Lou Breslow and Joseph Hoffman for \$100,000, with the intention of again co-starring Madeleine Carroll and Fred MacMurray, leads in his unreleased "Innocent Affair."

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RKO Board Meet

(Continued from page 1)

called abruptly and with a minimum quorum of board members attending, will probably continue for two or three days.

Today's session was reportedly devoted to a checkup on the progress made by the studio in implementing interim policies ratified by the board at its June meetings here. N. Peter Rathvon, who has since tendered his resignation as president to become effective as of the stockholders' meeting; Floyd Odium, Howard Hughes and Ned Depinet were present.

Among matters on the agenda, it is understood, was consideration of a proposed partnership between Rathvon and Odium in an independent producing company which would release through RKO.

RKO Profit

(Continued from page 1)

half of 1948 was \$1,901,863, after taxes and all other charges, equivalent to approximately 49 cents per share on the common, as compared with profit for the first half of 1947 of \$5,107,347 (including profit of \$1,605,852 on sale of capital assets, before taxes).

15c RKO Dividend Set

Radio-Keith-Orpheum board of directors yesterday declared a dividend of 15 cents per share on the common stock, payable Oct. 1 to holders of record on Sept. 15.

Ascap to Appeal

(Continued from page 1)

cation until after Labor Day, nor is Patterson. Ascap will take no action on the preparation of a decree for the court until Patterson's return to the city.

The MPAA copyright committee already has held two meetings at which the Ascap decision was discussed, with no conclusive results. It is felt that further talks on the subject would be of little use as matters stand at present. The committee would "just be shooting in the dark," a spokesman for the group said. It was made clear, however, that should an emergency arise before approval of a decree, discussions on the decision would be resumed by the committee.

N. J. Allied, Smith

(Continued from page 1)

Lachman, Jersey Allied president, said yesterday.

Lachman said that following a committee report on its talks with Smith a "survey of complaints" will be made among Jersey Allied members. Until the committee reports, Lachman said, the organization will be non-committal on the Smith plan.

The same committee, Lachman said, will confer at an unspecified future date with M-G-M distribution vice-president William F. Rodgers or other M-G-M executives on the possible application of company sales plans to the needs of individual Jersey Allied members.

Named WB Art Manager

Harold Kornheiser, a member of the Warner art department for the past nine years, has been promoted to art manager, it has been announced by Mort Blumenstock, Warner advertising-publicity vice-president.

Reviews

"The Rope"

(Warners-Trans-Atlantic Films)

Hollywood, Aug. 25

ALFRED HITCHCOCK has turned for the subject matter of this picture to an inhuman thrill-murder by two abnormal young men.

In point of artistry and craftsmanship it is a shining milestone in the distinguished career of the producer and in the development of production technique. In theme, it is a film of extremely questionable appropriateness for entertainment purposes.

Hitchcock's camera follows the players from start of the story to finish without blinking, thus giving the effect of the whole production having been filmed in one continuous take. The scene is a New York apartment and the period during which the story takes place is exactly the 83 minutes of the running time. The result is to make the observer feel, to far greater extent than ordinarily, that he is personally present in the apartment and virtually a party to what goes on there. This technological aspect of the picture is highly exploitable in its own right.

The story used is a screenplay by Arthur Laurents based on an adaptation by Hume Cronyn of a stage play, "Rope's End," by Patrick Hamilton. It opens on John Dall and Farley Granger, wealthy college-age intellectuals whose master-slave relationship is clearly indicated and whose deeds vividly recall the Loeb-Leopold murder case, in the act of strangling to death a young man whom they consider intellectually inferior and placing his body in an ornate chest pending removal after nightfall. Exulting in the emotional exhilaration derived from the killing, their only motive for it, they transfer the buffet-dinner setup from the dining room table to the top of the chest and await the arrival of invited guests selected in advance of the murder for purposes of prolonging the thrill. These include James Stewart, as their former college instructor who inculcated in them their belief in the right of superior intellects to dispose of inferiors at will; Sir Cedric Hardwicke as the murdered boy's father and Constance Collier as his aunt. Through cocktails and dinner Dall keeps the conversation centered on the intellectual-superiority theme, rejoicing in the knowledge that only he and Granger know why the anxiously awaited boy who is dead in the chest does not arrive to share the party. But Granger gradually cracks under the strain and Stewart starts putting vague hints together, coming to the conclusion that Dall and Granger have done just about what they have done. All the guests leave, and the murderers relax, but Stewart returns, extracts the truth from them by artful means, and finally, following utterances of regret about having given the boys this kind of ideas, fires a pistol out the window to attract the police. The picture ends as they await their arrival. (Joan Chandler, Douglas Dick, Edith Evanson and Dick Hogan are the others in the well matched, smoothly performing cast).

In simplest terms, the story is an account of a thrill-killing. As handled, it is a profound and protracted probing of the psychological abnormalities responsible for the killing, which is probably the only instance of murder-for-murder's-sake in screen history. As a text-film for university classes in psychology the production has manifest usefulness. As pastime it compares directly with a re-reading of the newspaper accounts of the Loeb-Leopold case in Chicago from which playwright Hamilton obviously borrowed his characters and theme.

It is the first production by Transatlantic Pictures, a partnership of Hitchcock and Sidney L. Bernstein, and it is in Technicolor.

Running time, 83 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date not set.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

"Winner Take All"

(Monogram)

PRODUCER Hal E. Chester's Joe Palooka pictures get better and better as the series stretches out into what promises to be a perpetual source of profit to exhibitors.

Joe Kirkwood is getting so he lives the Palooka role, and his cast companions here—Elyse Knox, William Frawley, Stanley Clements, Sheldon Leonard, John Shelton, Mary Beth Hughes and Frank Jenks in particular—do about the same with theirs. The script by Stanley Rubin and direction by Reginald Le Borg are tip-top and topical, wasting none of the 64 minutes. Bernard W. Burton is down as associate producer, and William Sickner's photography catches the ring battles better than a ringside seat.

Joe's troubles, herein begin with receipt of an anonymous note by his manager, from a racket group intent upon lowering the odds on Joe in his impending defense of his title, and are multiplied by a misunderstanding which leads him to believe that a youngster he's befriended, played by Clements, has turned against him without reason. That happens to be the case, although Clements doesn't realize it until almost too late to undo the damage to Joe's morale. He clears up the issue, however, just in time to give Joe the final lift he needs to win the title bout.

Running time, 64 minutes. General audience classification. Release date not set.

Byrd Film Previews

Some 80 simultaneous preview showings of M-G-M's Technicolor release, "The Secret Land," about Admiral Richard E. Byrd's expedition to Antarctica, will be sponsored by the U. S. Navy at every naval base in the country. The film is set for release Oct. 22, with simultaneous theatre premieres to coincide with Navy Day, Oct. 27.

To Aid Pa. Observance

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 25.—Plans for industry participation in the observance of "Pennsylvania Week," Sept. 26-Oct. 2, are in full swing here. In addition to the cooperation of exhibitors, wide newsreel coverage is expected, with David O. Selznick, a native of this state, slated to appear in news issues of Sept. 7-9. Mrs. Edna R. Carroll heads the film group.

U. S., British Films Drop in Argentina

WASHINGTON, Aug. 25.—The number of U. S., British and French films released in Argentina during the first six months of this year was less than during the same 1947 period, Commerce Department film chief Nathan D. Golden reports. Totals were not disclosed.

At the same time, there was a notable increase in Italian, Spanish and Mexican films in Argentina. Soviet films were completely absent.

U. S. Managers

(Continued from page 1)

barrassment for the Americans with its implication that they are unable to present a united front, particularly on their differences with J. Arthur Rank and their manner of dealing with them.

Johnston is scheduled to continue his discussions with Rank later this week at which time he is expected to renew his protests against Rank's proposed booking practices as being unfair and detrimental to the already seriously embarrassed American interests here. Rank has indicated that his theatres will play American films on the lower half of double bill programs where they not only will command low rentals but in many instances will carry weak British pictures on the top half of the bills. The practice would help to make it possible for Rank's theatres to meet the new 45 per cent quota.

News dispatches that Herbert J. Yates, president of Republic, had advocated withdrawal of the American companies from this market during a press conference in New York yesterday, came as a bombshell to the course which Johnston has in preparation here. Although Yates' statement is generally discounted in the local trade, it is obvious that Johnston is endeavoring to promote unity in the American ranks here in order to make a joint forthright declaration to Rank on his indicated policies.

Goldwyn, Disney

(Continued from page 1)

of theatres and used that power for their own business advantage."

Goldwyn listed 60 pictures produced by the SIMPP plaintiffs in the Detroit suit in the past 10 years which, he said, had been affected by booking practices in that city. Claims for the \$8,750,000 triple damages in the action are based in large part on the Detroit playing experience of those pictures.

Colosseum Talks

(Continued from page 1)

ing committee are due to leave Milwaukee and Chicago at the weekend for the second round in the New York conferences. C. J. (Pat) Scollard of Paramount heads the companies' contingent of negotiators.

Negotiations were suspended two weeks ago to give the negotiators for both sides time to prepare and submit to their respective organizations an interim report on the status of the collective bargaining.

Sopeg Asks Pact Talks

Letters will be sent to film companies here by Screen Office and Professional Employees Guild this weekend outlining new contract provisions and requesting a date for the opening of negotiations. The present contract expires Sept. 27.

TODAY FOR THE FIRST TIME T

NOTHING EVER HELD
WALTER WINCHELL
LIKE ALFRED
HITCHCOCK'S

ROPE

“It ties you into
knots! Hitchcock at
his big-time best!”



NOTHING
EVER
HELD
J. EDGAR HOOVER
.F.B.I. CHIEF
LIKE
ALFRED
HITCHCOCK'S

ROPE

“Never saw
anything like it!
Terrific suspense!
Leaves you
breathless!”



NOTHING
EVER HELD
DOROTHY KILGALLEN
FAMED COLUMNIST
LIKE
ALFRED
HITCHCOCK'S

ROPE

“Nerve-racking
from the opening
until the end!
Audiences will
remain cemented
to their seats!
The fan who doesn't
hurry to see ROPE
is cheating himself
of screen history!”



THE PUBLIC AT THE GLOBE N.Y.

NOTHING EVER HELD YOU LIKE ALFRED HITCHCOCK'S

ROPE

IN COLOR BY
TECHNICOLOR

IT STARS

JAMES STEWART

WITH

JOHN DALL FARLEY GRANGER SIR CEDRIC HARDWICKE

AND

CONSTANCE COLLIER JOAN CHANDLER

Screen Play by Arthur Laurents
From the Play by Patrick Hamilton
Director of Photography
Joseph Valentine, A.S.C.



PRESENTED BY WARNER BROS. A TRANSATLANTIC PICTURE

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY correspondents. Estimates omit admission tax.

BOSTON

Weather continues warm and humid. Holdovers are "Paradine Case," "Babe Ruth Story," "Sixteen Fathoms Deep" and "Antoine and Antoinette." Estimates for week ended Aug. 25: **ANTOINETTE AND ANTOINETTE** (Siritsky) and **THE SEARCH** (M-G-M)—EXETER (1,300) (40c-80c). Gross: \$4,300. (Average, \$5,000) **HAMLET** (U-I-Rank)—ASTOR (1,300) (90c-\$2.40) 8 days. Gross: \$28,500. **KEY LARGO** (WB) and **THE SHANGHAI CHEST** (Mono.)—PARAMOUNT (1,700) (40c-80c). Gross: \$15,000. (Average, \$17,000) **KEY LARGO** (WB) and **THE SHANGHAI CHEST** (Mono.)—FENWAY (1,373) (40c-80c). Gross: \$6,000. (Average, \$10,000) **RETURN OF THE BADMEN** (RKO

Radio) and **CAMPUS SLEUTH** (Mono.)—RKO-BOSTON (3,200) (40c-80c). Gross: \$7,900. **SIXTEEN FATHOMS DEEP** (Mono.)—MODERN (800) (45c-85c), 2nd week. Gross: \$4,000. **THE BABE RUTH STORY** (AA-Mono.) and **DEVIL'S CARGO** (FC)—RKO-MEMORIAL (3,000) (40c-80c), 2nd week. Gross: \$24,000. (Average: \$22,000) **THE PARADINE CASE** (SRO) and **MY DOG RUSTY** (Col.)—STATE (3,500) (40c-80c), 2nd week. Gross: \$12,000. (Average: \$12,000) **THE PARADINE CASE** (SRO) and **MY DOG RUSTY** (Col.)—ORPHEUM (3,000) (40c-80c), 2nd week. Gross: \$20,000. (Average: \$27,000) **THE WALLS OF JERICHO** (20th-Fox) and **MICHAEL O'HALLORAN** (Mono.)—METROPOLITAN (4,367) (40c-80c). Gross: \$24,000. (Average: \$27,000)

CINCINNATI

The high figures of the week go to "Key Largo" and "Tap Roots" at the RKO Capitol and Palace, respectively. Other releases, for the most part, are giving satisfactory returns. Weekend

weather was unusually hot. Estimated receipts for the week ended Aug. 24:

A FOREIGN AFFAIR (Para.)—RKO (1,400) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75) 7 days, 2nd week, on a moveover from the Palace. Gross: \$6,000. (Average, \$5,000) **KEY LARGO** (WB)—RKO CAPITOL (2,000) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 7 days. Gross: \$18,000. (Average, \$10,000) **MR. PEABODY AND THE MERMAID** (U-I) — KEITH'S (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: \$7,000. (Average, \$7,500) **A NIGHT AT THE OPERA** (M-G-M reissue)—RKO GRAND (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 7 days. Dually with **THE SEARCH** (M-G-M). Gross: \$9,000. (Average, \$8,000) **TAP ROOTS** (U-I)—RKO PALACE (2,700) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 7 days. Gross: \$18,000. (Average, \$15,000) **THAT LADY IN ERMINE** (20th-Fox)—RKO SHUBERT (2,150) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75) 7 days, 2nd week, on a moveover from the Albee. Gross: \$5,000. (Average, \$5,000) **THE VELVET TOUCH** (RKO Radio)—RKO ALBEE (3,300) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 7 days. Gross: \$12,500. (Average, \$15,000)

TORONTO

Approximately half of Toronto's ace houses had holdovers, notably the independent Biltmore which was playing "The Mating of Millie" for a 12th week, seven performances daily, for a probable Canadian long-distance record. "Easter Parade" was in its third week at Loew's Theatre. Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 26:

EASTER PARADE (M-G-M)—LOEW'S (2,074) (20c-36c-50c-66c-78c) 6 days, 3rd week. Gross: \$13,700. (Average: \$14,200) **A FOREIGN AFFAIR** (Para.)—EGLINTON (1,086) (20c-36c-50c-66c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: \$6,400. (Average: \$6,900) **A FOREIGN AFFAIR** (Para.)—TIVOLI (1,443) (20c-36c-50c-66c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: \$7,700. (Average: \$8,200) **THE MATING OF MILLIE** (Col.)—BILTMORE (938) (15c-30c-36c-55c) 6 days, 12th week. Gross: \$4,500. (Average: \$5,500) **MELODY TIME** (RKO-Radio)—SHEA'S (2,490) (20c-36c-50c-66c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: \$14,100. (Average: \$14,700) **MICKEY** (Int.)—NORTOWN (950) (20c-42c-60c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: \$4,000. (Average: \$5,000) **MICKEY** (Int.)—VICTORIA (1,240) (20c-36c-42c-60c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: \$5,000. (Average: \$5,800) **MR. PEABODY AND THE MERMAID** (U-I)—UPTOWN (2,761) (20c-36c-50c-66c-90c) 6 days. Gross: \$10,100. (Average: \$10,600) **WALLFLOWER** (WB)—DANFORTH (1,400) (20c-36c-50c-60c) 6 days. Gross: \$6,000. (Average: \$6,500) **WALLFLOWER** (WB)—FAIRLAWN (1,195) (20c-36c-50c-55c) 6 days. Gross: \$5,000. (Average: \$5,000) **THE WALLS OF JERICHO** (20th-Fox)—IMPERIAL (3,343) (20c-36c-50c-66c-90c) 6 days. Gross: \$15,100. (Average: \$14,600)

ATLANTA

Business at all theatres is above average. Weather hot and dry. Estimated receipts for week ended Aug. 25:

FLYING TIGERS (Rep.) and **BLONDE ICE** (FC)—TOWER (1,865) (17c-50c). Gross: \$6,100. (Average: \$5,800) **FOUR FEATHERS** (FC) and **DRUMS** (FC)—ROXY (2,446) (12c-50c). Gross: \$6,100. (Average: \$5,800) **LIFE WITH FATHER** (WB)—PARAMOUNT (2,446) (12c-50c). Gross: \$6,300. (Average: \$5,800) **TIME OF YOUR LIFE** (UA)—LOEW'S GRAND (2,446) (12c-54c). Gross: \$15,000. (Average: \$15,000) **TAP ROOTS** (U-I) FOX—(4,446) (12c-50c) 2nd week. Gross: \$13,000. (Average, \$15,000)

BALTIMORE

Several major attractions arriving at local first-run theatres are doing better than average business. Openings were strong and weekend figures maintained that pace. Holdovers, however, and even the less important

Detroit Theatre in 'Youth Month' Fete

DETROIT, Aug. 25.—Moving in ahead of the opening of Youth Month, Sept. 1 to 30, the Century Theatre here will entertain some 400 youngsters Friday evening. H. R. Munz, manager of the house, will donate ice cream, candy and balloons to the children. The entertainment will be held in a blocked off street.

'Youth Month' Ad to Some 17,000 Showmen

Advertising Council, Inc., in behalf of Youth Month, this week is sending to some 17,000 exhibitors as well as national and local advertisers, copy for a 1,000-line advertisement to be sponsored in local communities on an individual or cooperative basis. The ad is contained in a four-page brochure which also carries last-minute news on Youth Month activities.

'Red River' Opens Today in Southwest

DALLAS, Aug. 25.—Statewide celebrations in Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas and New Mexico today will launch the world premiere of Howard Hawks' "Red River" at openings at more than 300 theatres. Gov. Beauford Jester will start the celebrations on a nationwide hook-up as the guest of Nancy Craig, American Broadcasting commentator.

pictures are getting below average returns. Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 26:

ANGEL AND SINNER (Film Rights International)—LITTLE (328) (29c-37c-56c). Gross: \$3,250. (Average: \$3,000) **LIFE WITH FATHER** (WB)—STANLEY (3,280) (1st time at regular prices of 29c-37c-50c-58c). Gross: \$15,000. (Average: \$14,000) **MR. PEABODY AND THE MERMAID** (U-I)—KEITH'S (2,404) (25c-37c-44c-54c). Gross: \$8,500. (Average: \$12,000) **RETURN OF THE BAD MEN** (RKO-Radio)—HIPPODROME (2,205) (29c-38c-50c-58c) With stage show. Gross: \$18,750. (Average: \$17,000) **ROSE OF WASHINGTON SQUARE** (20th-Fox Reissue)—MAYFAIR (1,000) (21c-29c-54c). Gross: \$4,750. (Average: \$5,000) **THE BABE RUTH STORY** (AA-Mono.)—TOWN (1,450) (29c-37c-56c) 4th week. Gross: \$8,000. (Average: \$11,000) **THE PARADINE CASE** (SRO)—CENTURY (3,000) (29c-37c-45c-54c). Gross: \$17,500. (Average: \$14,500) **THE PIRATE** (M-G-M)—VALENCIA (1,466) (29c-37c-45c-54c) 2nd week. Gross: \$7,000. (Average: \$5,000) **WALLS OF JERICHO** (20th-Fox)—NEW (1,800) (29c-40c-50c-54c) 2nd week. Gross: \$10,250. (Average: \$11,750)

BIG NEWS!



Now you can enjoy fast, comfortable
Flagship SKYSLEEPERS
to Los Angeles!

EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 1



American is First Again with the Only Coast-to-Coast
Skysleepers ... Luxurious DC-6 Accommodations

Now, American provides spacious Skyberths aboard the famous DC-6 "Mercury" flight to Los Angeles! Eight roomy Skyberths supplement 36 comfortable seat accommodations. Here's your first opportunity to sleep your way West in a DC-6 Skysleeper, over American's Southern Transconti-

ental Route. It's the fast, comfortable way to go... a real rest cure aloft!

THE MERCURY departs daily at midnight EDT—arrives Los Angeles 8:10 a.m. PDT. Sleeper passengers may board an hour before departure.

Phone HAVemeyer 6-5000 or your travel agent

Ticket Offices: Airlines Terminal • Rockefeller Center • Hotel New Yorker
120 Broadway • Hotel St. George

AMERICAN AIRLINES

LAFF BEGINS

ON

'K'-DAY!

Plenty Sizzling MUSIC TOO!

TO EXHIBITORS, PROJECTIONISTS,
THEATRE ARCHITECTS, ENGINEERS—

*Theatre Equipment & Supply Manufacturers'
Association, Inc.*

*extends to you a very personal
invitation to attend the*

Third Annual Tesma Trade Show

to be held at the

Jefferson Hotel, St. Louis, Mo.

on

September 28-29-30, 1948

*where you may inspect the latest developments in
large screen theatre television, materials,
furnishings, equipment and supplies for
the modern theatre and drive-ins
and meet with and discuss your
mechanical problems and
requirements with the
men whose business
it is to serve
you.*



For hotel accommodations address Miss Jeanette Riordan
Reservation Dept. Jefferson Hotel, St. Louis, Mo.

Convention Committee
Theatre Equipment & Supply
Manufacturers Association
Theatre Equipment Dealers
Protective Association

In a year of great
boxoffice attractions

from
20th
CENTURY-FOX



That **LADY**
IN ERMINE
COLOR BY TECHNICOLOR

**OPENED TO THE BIGGEST
BOXOFFICE LINES OF 1948
AT THE ROXY THEATRE, N.Y.**

**MATCHING THE RECORDS OF 20th's TOP
TECHNICOLOR MUSICALS IN CINCINNATI,
PORTLAND, SEATTLE, LOS ANGELES, CHICAGO!**

Accurate
Concise
and
Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

MR. ERIC JOHNSTON
MOTION PICTURE ASSOCIATION
AMERICA,
28 WEST 44TH ST.,
NEW YORK, N. Y.

FIRST
IN
FILM
NEWS

64. NO. 41

NEW YORK, U. S. A., FRIDAY, AUGUST 27, 1948

TEN CENTS

\$13,570,000 Is Para. Net For Half Year

**Excludes Foreign Funds
Not Actually Received**

Paramount's profit for the six months ended July 3 was \$13,570,000, including \$3,312,000 share of undistributed earnings of partially-owned non-consolidated subsidiaries and approximately \$650,000 of non-recurring income, the company estimated yesterday. For the same period last year profit was estimated at \$17,407,000, including \$3,189,000 share of undistributed earnings.

The company noted that effective with the beginning of the fiscal year 1948 it has excluded the earnings of all subsidiaries operating outside of the U. S. and Canada, except to the extent that dividends have been received from such subsidiaries. The company has continued its practice of taking up film revenues from subsidiaries operating outside of the U. S. and Canada, it was explained, only to the extent that such revenues have been received in dollars or are remitted.

(Continued on page 4)

Anti-Taft Law Film Is Planned by IA

First recommendation to the IATSE membership by international president Richard F. Walsh, following his reelection at last week's convention in Cleveland is for the production by "IA" of a motion picture which would lend impetus to the American Federation of Labor's campaign for repeal of the Taft-Hartley Law. A convention resolution called for an allocation of \$25,000 from the campaign fund for financing the film.

Such a film, an "IA" spokesman explained here yesterday, would be

(Continued on page 2)

R K O Stockholders Meet Set for Oct. 1

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 26. — Annual stockholders' meeting of RKO reportedly has been set for Oct. 1 at the board meeting which started at the Beverly Hills Hotel yesterday. The meeting, which was expected to continue for the rest of the week, is understood to have limited its official action to declaring a regular quarterly dividend. Ned Depinet, executive vice-president, will leave here by plane Saturday for New York.

ITOA Will Appeal Ascap Decision on Damages; Hits TOA

Exhibitor plaintiffs who won their first round in the U. S. District Court anti-trust suit against the American Society of Composers, Authors & Publishers last month intend to appeal from the portion of the decision denying them damages from Ascap and in order to attempt to obtain "even far more sweeping relief," Milton C. Weisman, attorney for exhibitor plaintiffs in the case, said yesterday.

The additional relief to be sought was not disclosed. Weisman said the plaintiffs' appeals will be taken regardless of whether or not Ascap appeals from Judge Vincent L. Leibell's decision of July 19.

It was disclosed yesterday that Ascap also has decided to appeal but first will endeavor to have its special

(Continued on page 4)

W. B. Theatre Staff Changes in Capitol Ask Judgment In W.B. 'Divorce' Suit

WASHINGTON, Aug. 26.—George A. Crouch, newly appointed Washington zone manager for Warner Brothers Theatres, has announced several changes in his staff.

Advertising and publicity director Frank La Falce will in the future also have charge of the two key downtown theatres, the Warner and the Metropolitan. Louis F. Ribnitzki has been named film buyer and George Warner, head booker. James W. Root will be assistant feature booker as well as short subject booker, and Charles Grimes will assume supervision of the

(Continued on page 4)

Talks on Consent Decree Status Quo

There have been no material developments in consequence of occasional discussions pertaining to proposals for a consent decree in the Paramount case since the subject was first broached late in June, a top executive of a major company said yesterday.

While declaring that further discussions will be held from time to time, he indicated that there is at present no rapprochement between the known views of the Attorney General's office and those of the theatre-owning defendants on an acceptable decree. It was also indicated that views among the five major defendants themselves are at variance on some basic issues.

'Cooperate or War,' Johnston Tells Rank

**Warns U. K. Restrictions
May Become World Ills**

LONDON, Aug. 26.—Eric A. Johnston, Motion Picture Association of America president, warned J. Arthur Rank at a meeting of the two here today that the British industry leader cannot have a closed market here and an open market elsewhere.

Britain's restrictive measures, Johnston told Rank, inevitably will become an international infection. This already is obvious in France and elsewhere, he said.

The third of Johnston's talks with Rank since the MPAA president's arrival here last Saturday took place at a luncheon today. Their discussions will be continued either before Johnston leaves for the Continent next

(Continued on page 4)

20th's Bid for Video Amendment Denied

WASHINGTON, Aug. 26.—The Federal Communications Commission today gave a final "no" to a request of 20th Century-Fox to amend its application for a San Francisco television station to include plans for an auxiliary station at Oakland.

The commission turned down an appeal by 20th-Fox from a similar decision of commissioner George Sterling.

The company based its petition in part on the claim that the FCC had allowed Paramount to amend its San Francisco video application under similar circumstances. The FCC said Paramount had sought to amend its application well before the San Francisco television hearings ended.

Hudson Claims No Detroit 'Monopoly'

DETROIT, Aug. 26.—Denying charges of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers that a monopoly in Detroit interferes with the right of the patron to see pictures he wants, Earl J. Hudson manager of the United Detroit Theatres, said: "Pictures of all producers have an equal chance in Detroit Theatres. We show the same

(Continued on page 2)

Film 'Red' Hearings to Be Resumed in Sept.: Thomas

WASHINGTON, Aug. 26.—House Un-American Activities Committee hearings on Communism in Hollywood will be resumed next month, committee chairman J. Parnell Thomas said today.

He said 26 film figures for whom the committee had "Communist records" would be subpoenaed.

There have been repeated reports of resumption of the Hollywood hearings, but this is the first to come from Thomas himself, and the most definite. Even with the announcement from Thomas, however, it is very possible that any one of a number of other hearings scheduled next month may

send the committee off on another tangent and shove the Hollywood hearings back again.

Thomas said the Hollywood hearings would be one of a group on which the committee will work in rapid-fire order starting Sept. 7. They will deal with "a new espionage case," reported harboring of known Communists in the country, reports of Communist infiltration into Negro organizations, the case of Dr. Edward U. Condon, head of the Bureau of Standards, and Communist infiltration in educational institutions and newspapers and periodicals, as well as the Hollywood probe.

Personal Mention

PAUL MACNAMARA, Selznick Releasing Organization's public relations vice-president, arrived here yesterday from the Coast.

J. L. (LES) KAUFMAN, former Universal-International studio publicity director, will return to the Coast by plane at the weekend, following a 10-day business trip to Detroit and New York.

G. L. CARRINGTON, president of Altrec, has returned to Hollywood after attending the wedding, in Lincoln, Ill., of his eldest son, **G. L. CARRINGTON, Jr.**, to **HARRIETT CLARE PERRY**.

CHARLES SIMONELLI, Universal-International Eastern exploitation manager, and **PHILIP GERARD**, publicist, have returned here from the Coast.

MRS. BETTY SEPANIK has returned to her publicity post at the Fox Theatre, Detroit, after a six-month absence.

JOE ALVIN, public relations director for the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, left here yesterday for Detroit.

CHARLES P. SKOURAS, National Theatres president, left New York yesterday via United Airlines for Hollywood.

KENNETH CLARK, Motion Picture Association of America public relations director, was in New York yesterday from Washington.

THOMAS TURNER COOKE, Universal special counsel, is vacationing in Maine, from where he will return to New York after Labor Day.

B. G. KRANZ, Film Classics' distribution vice-president, is recuperating at his home here from a virus attack.

IATSE Plans Film

(Continued from page 1)

shown principally at labor meetings, there being little likelihood, he said, that the film would reach theatres for public consumption. Plans are to have the film ready for showings long before the current political campaign is ended. Production of it would probably be handled by the AFL Film Council on the Coast, which, under the supervision of "IA" representative Roy Brewer, has already made and released documentaries touching on labor's achievements, the spokesman said.

Walsh has been in Chicago this week attending a meeting of AFL's League for Political Education administrative committee, of which he is a member.

Legal Session

Attorneys for the film companies met here yesterday to assign counsel to various anti-trust actions around the country.

Challenges Sopeg in Poll 'Delay' at UA

Following a reassessment yesterday of its strength among United Artists' home office white collar workers, IATSE Motion Picture Home Office Employees Local No. H-63 voiced the opinion that "the Screen Office and Professional Employees Guild could avail itself of all possible means under the Taft-Hartley Law to delay a shop election at UA without succeeding in preventing an ultimate victory there for H-63." The two unions are engaged in a three-months-old jurisdictional dispute at UA.

An election had been scheduled by the regional office of the National Labor Relations Board at UA today, but was cancelled earlier this week following an appeal by attorney for intervenor Cecilia Schuman to the NLRB in Washington, against regional NLRB director Charles T. Douds' ruling that Miss Schuman was acting in behalf of SOPEG, itself disqualified on non-Communist affidavit non-compliance grounds, in seeking ballot recognition.

Russell Moss, H-63 business agent, disclosed yesterday that "90 per cent of UA employe 'eligibles' has appealed in a wire to NLRB chief Paul Herzog in Washington protesting the "election stoppage" and offering to testify, regardless of personal expense, at a Washington hearing if it will hasten the holding of a shop election. A number of the telegram's signers, Moss said, are former supporters of Miss Schuman's candidacy.

"IA" attorney Matthew M. Levy, Moss said, has asked the NLRB in Washington for "immediate action" on the appeal against Douds' ruling.

AFM and Firms Meet To Break Impasse

Representatives of the American Federation of Musicians and the companies met again last night in their negotiations for a new contract covering studio instrumentalists. The session was still in progress at a late hour, with no indications that the impasse in the negotiations reached on Wednesday had been broken.

Video for Seattle Seen by Christmas

SEATTLE, Aug. 26.—The possibility of Seattle having television by Christmas is seen here as radio station KRSC announced it will begin tests next month. P. L. Leberman, president of the Radio Sales Corp., said the station is expected to begin regular commercial services about 30 days after the tests.

Chicago's WGN - TV Signs With DuMont

CHICAGO, Aug. 26.—WGN-TV today signed an agreement with the DuMont television network to be the exclusive Chicago outlet for network-originated programs. This will give Chicago televiewers the first regular Coast-to-Coast network programming in this area.

Heat Forces Some To Close Early

The record-breaking heat wave had various effects on the home offices of the major film companies yesterday. RKO and Warner Brothers closed at 3:00 p.m., Paramount at 3:30 and Monogram at 4:00. Republic reported regular closing time and air-conditioned offices brought no change in closing time for M-G-M, 20th Century-Fox, Universal-International, Columbia and United Artists.

Dembow Drive Chiefs Here for Planning

William Bein, Central district manager for National Screen Service, and Ben Ashe, Los Angeles branch manager, arrived here yesterday for preliminary meetings with George F. Dembow, vice-president in charge of sales, regarding the George Dembow Tribute Drive, starting Sept. 13.

Bein and Ashe have been appointed Eastern and Western drive captains by Herman Robbins, president. Talks will cover the concentration of sales force efforts on a "Get Back to Showmanship" theme.

Popkin Plays Host

Harry Popkin, independent producer releasing through United Artists, was host to sales and advertising-publicity executives of the film company at a Sherry Netherlands luncheon here yesterday prior to his return to the Coast. Among those present were Edward Schnitzer, Paul Lazarus, Jr., Howard LeSieur, Al Tamarin, Jack Wregge, Frances Winikus and Edward Peskay.

Eyssell Dines Newman

Frank L. Newman, Sr., pioneer exhibitor and president of the Evergreen State Amusement Corp., Seattle, for whom G. S. Eyssell, president of Radio City Music Hall and executive manager of Rockefeller Center, Inc., first worked in show business in Kansas City, Mo., was entertained at luncheon yesterday by Eyssell in the Music Hall's studio apartment.

U.A. Board Meeting

Special meeting of the United Artists board of directors was held here yesterday to consider a deal for relinquishing distribution rights to three pictures produced by Howard Hughes who now wants them for RKO Radio release. The company declined to comment following the meeting.

Hudson Claims

(Continued from page 1)

double bills in all sections of the city but not for any deep, dark reason. The theatre business here is more competitive than in any other city in the country.

The producers sued United and Co-operative Theatres of Michigan, independent buying combine, for \$8,750,000 in damages for alleged monopoly.

Wright, Myers Calm About SIMPP Suit

WASHINGTON, Aug. 26.—Justice Department attorney Robert L. Wright refused to make any comment on the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers' suit against United Detroit Theatres and Co-operative Theatres of Michigan, independent buying combine, beyond the laconic statement that "presumably treble-damage suits are one method of enforcing the anti-trust laws." Wright pointed out that injunctive relief asked against United might be taken care of by the New York Court's disposition of the Paramount case but that the damage claim would still remain.

Allied counsel Abram F. Myers said he wanted it made clear that there was no similarity at all between the activities of Co-operative Theatres and Allied Caravan. Caravan does no buying, he stated, but "merely exchanges information on closed transactions."

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center

"A DATE WITH JUDY"

Wallace BEERY • Jane POWELL
Elizabeth TAYLOR • Carmen MIRANDA
Xavier CUGAT • Robert STACK
A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

ALAN DONNA
LADD REED
in
Paramount's
BEYOND GLORY
A Great Love Story
That Comes
Sliding Through

in Person
MARTHA TILTON
with
JAN MURRAY
RUDY CARDEAS
Extra Added Attraction!
RAY EBERLE and his
Billy Marston Orchestra

PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

ROY DEL RUTH'S
"THE BABE RUTH STORY"
Starring
WILLIAM CLARE BENDIX and
CLARE BENDIX
An Allied Artists Production
CHARLES BICKFORD
COOL ASTOR B'WAY AT 45TH ST. Cont. Performances • Pop Prices

RKO Presents
GEORGE WILLIAM MARILYN
RAFT BENDIX MAXWELL
IN
"RACE STREET"
BRANDT'S MAYFAIR 7th Ave. & 47th St.
Cool

Betty Grable • Douglas Fairbanks, Jr.
"THAT LADY IN ERMINE"
A 20th Century-Fox Picture—
TECHNICOLOR
On Variety Stage—FRANCES LANGFORD & JON HALL • HARMONICATS
JERRY COLONNA
On Ice Stage—"THE MERRY WIDOW"
Starring CAROL LYNN • FRITZ DIETL
ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.



*To that memorable
list of superb comedies*

"LADY FOR A DAY"

"IT HAPPENED ONE NIGHT"

"THE AWFUL TRUTH"

"YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU"

"THE PHILADELPHIA STORY"

Now Add...



JAMES NASSER'S
presentation of
FRED
MacMURRAY • CARROLL
a peach of a pair in that delightful,
justrightful, "not-so-innocent"

**"An
Innocent
Affair"**

with
CHARLES 'BUDDY' ROGERS • RITA JOHNSON
LOUISE ALLBRITTON • ALLAN MOWBRAY
Original Screenplay by Lou Breslow and Joseph Hoffman
Directed by Lloyd Bacon • A James Nasser Production

right now, just right thru UA

Johnston-Rank

(Continued from page 1)

Wednesday or, more likely, on his return here before departing for America Sept. 25.

Today's talk between the two was described as friendly but almost brutally frank. The gist of the message Johnston gave to Rank was: Cooperation or warfare.

'Full Catalogue of Affronts'

Johnston presented a full catalogue of occasions of affronts to the American industry, including the *ad valorem* film tax, the 45 per cent quota law, the uncalled for rebuff in the exclusion of Americans from the Films Council, the continued "smear" attacks on American pictures in the newspapers and elsewhere here and a principal grievance, Rank's suggested intention of running choice American pictures as second features in his theatres.

Laying his cards on the table, Johnston told Rank he would be the first to suffer if he endeavors to meet the quota with a series of cheaply-made "quickies." Bad pictures could set back the whole British industry, Rank was reminded.

Sees Both Sides Hurt

In a fight between the two industries both sides would be hurt, but possibly Rank would be hurt more, Johnston said.

Rank was obviously impressed by the interchange and expressed the wish to discuss Johnston's indictments with associates before meeting with Johnston again.

Most Americans here feel that under no circumstances should they agree to the playing of their choicer product as second features. They demand the right to sell complete American programs, both first and second features.

Johnston also met again today with American company managers here for a further discussion of ways and means of protecting American interests. The discussions are likely to be continued in view of the continuing divergence of views and interests in the American camp, which was again apparent after Johnston had left today's meeting.

Will Meet Fuller Monday

The views of independent British exhibitors also will be sought by Johnston, probably on Monday, when he hopes to meet with W. R. Fuller,

Review

"For the Love of Mary"

(Universal-International)

WAIT till the patrons get a look at the farcical complications official Washington is thrown into by the romantic involvements of Deanna Durbin. As a switchboard operator in the White House, she has everyone from the President and Supreme Court Justices—down to the more humble folks concerned with her emotional life. The affair turns out to be a merry romp, the kind that customers generally find easy to take. The plot is one that frequently gives plausibility a strenuous tug, but the mood of mischievousness becomes so contagious that one is disinclined to judge its shortcomings.

The vehicle is almost exclusively Miss Durbin's, and when not involved in the entanglements caused by her three suitors, and the well-meaning interference of the President, she finds time for an impressive number of songs. Some of them are "Moonlight Bay," "I'll Take You Home Again, Kathleen," "On the Wings of Song," and a score from "The Barber of Seville."

Among those who vie for Miss Durbin's hand in the Oscar Brodney screenplay are Jeffrey Lynn, a lawyer; Edmond O'Brien, a naval aide to the White House; and Don Taylor, owner of a little Pacific island, on which the Navy, through some error, has built a base. This turns out to be the trump card by which Taylor disposes of the romantic competition. When the Navy negotiates for the purchase of the island, Taylor agrees to sell it on condition that the lawyer is made a judge far, far away, and the lieutenant is given sea duty.

As an off-screen character, the President contributes a lot of bungling mirth, but in an election year, this may not seem so hilarious to some party leaders. Robert Arthur produced; Frederick De Cordova directed.

Running time, 90 minutes. General audience classification. Set for September release.

MANDEL HERBSTMAN

general secretary of Cinematograph Exhibitors Association, and others. Several Americans here advocate immediate withdrawal from Rank's circuits in the event he refuses to agree to more satisfactory film playing terms.

Johnston visited Lady Astor at her country home late today. His itinerary on leaving here now includes Paris, Berlin, Rome, Madrid and Belgrade, Yugoslavia. He still hopes to get a visa to visit Russia, but this appears unlikely. He plans to contact Marshal Tito while in Belgrade.

Paramount Profit

(Continued from page 1)

table under existing restrictions on remittances.

Profit reported for the second quarter of this year was \$5,810,000, after all charges, including taxes. The amount includes \$1,466,000 representing Paramount's direct and indirect net interest as a stockholder in the combined undistributed earnings for the quarter of partially-owned non-consolidated subsidiaries. Profit for the corresponding quarter of last year was estimated at \$7,885,000, including \$1,489,000 share of undistributed earnings of subsidiaries.

Profit for this year's quarter was equal to 84 cents a share of common, compared with \$1.11 per share for the corresponding quarter of 1947. Profit for the first half of this year represents \$1.96 per share, as against \$2.45 per share for the first six months of last year.

The company's board yesterday declared the regular quarterly dividend of 50 cents per share on the common stock, payable Sept. 24 to stockholders of record Sept. 7.

PUZZLE-BANK

A game to be played by theater audiences

Enterprise House, Inc., 198 Broadway
New York City DIgby 9-1278

British Lion Sets 26 Films Through '49

LONDON, Aug. 26.—Sir Arthur Jarratt, managing director of British Lion, distribution affiliate of Sir Alexander Korda, has announced that the company plans to release 26 features between now and the end of 1949. The number is three times greater than the company delivered last year.

W. B. Theatre

(Continued from page 1)

Stanley Theatre in Baltimore as well as Virginia district theatres. Harry E. Lohmeyer and Nat Glassner continue as managers, respectively, of the Washington neighborhood houses and Maryland district theatres.

E-K Promotes Barr To Managerial Post

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Aug. 26.—Eastman Kodak has advanced William E. Barr to assistant general manager of its sensitized goods sales division. He will continue to function as manager of the company's industrial photographic sales division.

ITOA To Appeal

(Continued from page 1)

counsel, former Secretary of War Robert P. Patterson, petition Judge Leibell for a modification of some of the more sweeping phraseology in the decision.

In the 13-page statement he released yesterday, Weisman scored Theatre Owners of America's advice to exhibitors to continue payments to Ascapi. Weisman countered with this:

"My advice to every exhibitor: 'Don't pay Ascapi for music performing rights. If you must part with your good money, give it to a poor relative or give it to a worthy charity'."

Weisman said "The effect of the decision is so apparent that virtually all informed exhibitors and exhibitor associations are discontinuing the making of any payments to Ascapi." He contends that producers will not have to pay exorbitant prices for the performing rights to copyrighted music "since they will be able to purchase them in an open and free market where competition among copyright owners exists."

He added that, in his opinion, the cost of the performing rights borne by the producers could not very well be passed along to exhibitors because the latter already are paying for film "all that the traffic will bear."

Herman Levy, general counsel of Theatre Owners of America, made the following comment yesterday on the Weisman statement:

"We shall be glad to argue with anybody, at any time, the merits of the two existing positions with regard to payments to Ascapi for performing rights under current licenses and prior to the entry of a decree by Judge Leibell."

"The mud-slinging at personalities by Weisman, however, does not deserve or warrant any response."

'Games' Opens Sept. 1

The print of "The Olympic Games of 1948," to be released by Eagle-Lion, will be received from England on Sept. 1. The film is due to open at the Apollo, Chicago, Sept. 10; Exeter, Boston, Sept. 12; Gotham, New York, Sept. 15.

\$9,500 for 'Rope' Here

Alfred Hitchcock's "Rope" grossed approximately \$9,500 in its opening day, yesterday, at the Globe here. This represents top business for the house, despite yesterday's record heat here.

Mr. Exhibitor!

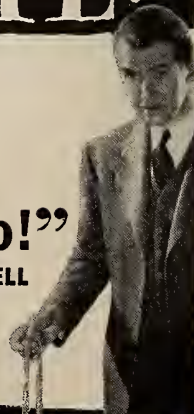
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FIRST
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FILM
NEWS

V 64. NO. 42

NEW YORK, U. S. A., MONDAY, AUGUST 30, 1948

TEN CENTS

Some By-pass 1st Runs as Profits Wane

Earlier Neighborhood Play-offs Are Favored

As the trend continues away from the fixed selling pattern adhered to over the past several years, some distributors are now considering by-passing first-run outlets in three of the country's top cities, New York, Los Angeles and Chicago, distribution executives here reveal.

United Artists, for one, has found that lesser-caliber product in New York and Los Angeles fares commercially better with an earlier play-off in the neighborhood situations through the elimination of first-run engagements. First-run rentals, it is said, are offset by the cost of advertising such product. At UA it was reported that the same holds true to a lesser extent in Chicago.

Meanwhile, in the New York area, adjustments of the clearances now held by the RKO and Loew's circuits still are being discussed by distribution executives, according to informed sources. As yet few changes have been made. One film company sales

(Continued on page 4)

ECA Action Due on Converting Marks

WASHINGTON, Aug. 29.—The Economic Cooperation Administration hopes to announce in the very near future—possibly this week—a contract with the Motion Picture Export Association guaranteeing the convertibility from marks into dollars of costs of sending films into occupied Germany.

This will be the first convertibility guarantee contract for a film firm, and

(Continued on page 4)

\$3,000,000 Budget for 12 Films by Equity

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 29. — A production program calling for the expenditure of \$3,000,000 on 12 pictures during the 10-month period starting in September was announced here at the weekend by Harry H. Thomas, president of Equity Pictures. Eagle-Lion will release.

Equity, which furnishes its own financing for independent producers, was organized by Thomas following his retirement as president of Producers Releasing Corp.

RKO Gets 3 Hughes Films

Three films produced by Howard Hughes for United Artists release which became a subject of negotiation when Hughes acquired control of RKO are now slated for RKO release, according to informed sources.

The UA board last week agreed to part with the product in consideration of a financial arrangement with RKO. Reports of exact nature of the deal are in apparent conflict, one being that a cash settlement is involved and the other that RKO has agreed to provide second-money financing for three UA pictures. The finalization of the transaction is expected shortly and Grad Sears, UA president, is expected to make an announcement on the matter today.

The three films are "The Outlaw," "Vendetta" and "Mad Wednesday."

At its meeting last week, the UA board had rejected other proposed settlements including one under which UA would have taken distribution rights to three other RKO radio films in exchange for those made by Hughes.

Petrillo Demands Postponed for Year

The impasse reached last week in talks between representatives of the American Federation of Musicians and companies bearing on a new contract covering studio instrumentalists resulted in a compromise late Thursday night to extend the existing agreement one year, subject to reopening by the AFM at any time on 60 days' notice.

The conferences came to an end when James C. Petrillo, president of the AFM, yielded to the companies' request that he hold up his demand for wage adjustments and more employment for musicians in production on the grounds of a decline in film business. At the same time he reserved the right to reopen negotiations at "a more appropriate time,"

(Continued on page 4)

'Electra' Ready for Popular Priced Runs

A specially-edited version of the Theatre Guild-RKO Radio production of "Mourning Becomes Electra" has been finished and will be released soon for popular-priced engagements, it has been announced by Robert Mochrie, RKO distribution vice-president. Running time of the edited version has been reduced to a little under two hours.

20th-Fox to Produce 12 Films in France

Paris, Aug. 29.—Production of 12 films during the first year of full European production, entailing expenditure of \$24,000,000 during the next year, will be launched here by 20th Century-Fox, Darryl F. Zanuck announced here at the weekend. The plan is aimed at utilizing \$12,000,000 in frozen currency of foreign countries. Zanuck also indicated that the European production program would involve a curtailment of the 22 films scheduled to be made in Hollywood.

Favor Direct Sale Of Foreign Rights

Substantial increase in outright sale of distribution rights to U. S. product abroad is anticipated in trade circles here, particularly where the product of independent producers is concerned.

One independent producer's representative said at the weekend that outright sale of pictures to foreign distributors is rapidly becoming more advantageous as marketing problems abroad continue to increase.

Costs of dubbing and imposing titles, adverse playing time quotas and dollar-conversion difficulties are said to be making spot deals more attractive where possible. Independent producers particularly are eager for a quicker return on investments, it is said, and this, too, can be accomplished by outright deals.

Sopeg's 25% Increase Bid to 9 Companies

New contract demands calling for a 25 per cent general increase in wages, upward revision of all minimum salaries, a 35-hour work week and other benefits were sent at the weekend by Screen Office and Professional Employees Guild to presidents or vice-presidents of Columbia, Loew's, National Screen, Paramount, Republic, RKO Radio, RKO Service Corp., 20th Century-Fox and Confidential Reports.

Sidney Young, SOPEG president, who signed the communication, asked the companies to set an early date to begin negotiations. SOPEG's present contracts with the nine companies expire on Sept. 27. Earlier demands put to United Artists by SOPEG were followed by the company's refusal to negotiate with the union because of its non-compliance with the non-Communist affidavit provisions of the Taft-Hartley Law.

MPAA's Trade Deal Unblocks Europe Funds

'Definite Results,' Says World Commerce Corp.

The so-called "compensation deal" between the Motion Picture Association of America and World Commerce Corp., international trading organization with offices in principal cities of the globe, is now producing "definite results" in terms of unblocking U. S. film earnings in Europe, it is disclosed here by WCC executive vice-president John A. R. Pepper.

The deal, negotiated early this year, had not produced any tangible results until recently. Pepper's disclosure marked the first indication that the plan may hold substantial advantages for the U. S. industry.

Pepper said the plan, reportedly conceived by Gerald M. Mayer, managing director of the MPAA international division, has succeeded in un-

(Continued on page 4)

Yates Takes Half Pay; Pass Dividend

Herbert J. Yates, Republic Pictures president, voluntarily reduced his salary 50 per cent, the company announced following a board of directors meeting here on Friday.

The action was concurrent with a statement from Yates that "further substantial economies" are contemplated by the company during the next 60 days, in addition to "many economies already in effect."

The quarterly dividend on the company's preferred stock, usually de-

(Continued on page 4)

Foley Will Address TOA on 'Excise Tax'

"The Excise Tax" will be discussed at the Sept. 24 session of the Theatre Owners of America convention in Chicago by Undersecretary of the Treasury Edward H. Foley, Jr., it is reported by TOA executive director Gael Sullivan. Foley is the second Washington figure scheduled to address the convention, it having been previously reported that Federal Communications Commissioner Wayne Coy will speak Sept. 25.

TOA has been campaigning since its inception about two years ago for a reduction in the 20 per cent Federal admissions (excise) tax.

Personal Mention

MR. and MRS. JACK WARNER, GEN. WILLIAM J. DONOVAN, JOCK LAWRENCE, SYDNEY WYNNE, JACK BENNY, MARY LIVINGSTON and MR. and MRS. HAROLD BOXALL are due in New York today on the *Queen Mary* from England.

GEORGES AYOtte of the National Film Board of Canada will leave Ottawa shortly for Paris to study decorative art at the Institute des Hautes Etudes Cinematographiques.

CHARLES LAUGHTON and **R**OBERT HUTTON are among the passengers on the *Mauretania* which left New York for England on Saturday.

SID REAMS has been appointed special sales representative for Republic in Atlanta by **M**ERRITT DAVIS, branch manager there.

RUSSELL STEWART, M-G-M home office publicist, is expected back in New York today from Washington.

C. J. BRIANT, New Orleans branch manager for M-G-M, has returned to his headquarters from New York.

ABE COLMAN, general manager of the M-G-M music publishing companies, is on the Coast from New York.

RICHARD POWERS, M-G-M music executive, will return to the Coast from Boston tomorrow.

LILY WHALEN of the Famous Players-Shea Theatre, Toronto, is beginning her 50th year in show business.

JEROME J. COHEN, motion picture insurance specialist, is on a Caribbean cruise.

LARRY MACKEY, manager of the Arcadia Theatre in Philadelphia, is vacationing in Texas.

HELEN GRABROW of Eagle-Lion's foreign department is vacationing in the Lake George region.

MAJOR HUGH MARTIN, JR., general manager of M & M Theatres in Florida, has been called to Army duty.

AnSCO Aide to Europe

BINGHAMTON, N. Y., Aug. 29.—**A**LAN W. COOK, head of the Eastern technical service department of AnSCO's professional motion picture sales division, sailed for France on Saturday to assist Irving Allen, producer, as technical adviser on "The Man in the Eiffel Tower." Before returning to the U.S. in November, Cook plans to visit other film capitals in Europe for conferences on the use of AnSCO Color Film.

Early Closings Friday

Many company home offices closed early on Friday, for the second consecutive day, due to New York's record-breaking heat wave.

FCC to Use License Power on Give-aways

WASHINGTON, Aug. 29.—The Federal Communications Commission on Friday announced it planned to go ahead with its proposed crack-down on radio give-away shows, but under a different portion of the Federal Communications Act than announced earlier.

About three weeks ago, the FCC announced proposed rules which would have ruled off almost all current quiz programs except "Information Please" and "Quiz Kids." But the National Association of Broadcasters and a Congressional investigating committee pointed out that the section it was using as its authority had been repealed.

On Friday, the FCC said it didn't need that section. It would go ahead with its rules under its general power to issue radio licenses in the public interest. Anyone who wants to oppose the rules still has until Sept. 10 to file a brief.

FCC Sets Conference

WASHINGTON, Aug. 29.—The Federal Communications Commission will hold a conference with the television industry on Sept. 13 on the commission's television allocation procedures.

Distribution Deals Announced by Astor

Astor Pictures has completed a deal with Films, Inc., whereby the latter will distribute on a non-exclusive basis, Astor's 16mm. product in the U. S. The deal is for a five-year period, according to Jacques Kopstein, executive vice-president of Astor.

In another deal, John Jenkins, president of Astor Pictures Co. of Dallas has acquired distribution for eight "Wild Bill" Elliott reissues controlled by Astor Pictures Corp. The agreement covers the Atlanta, Memphis and New Orleans territories.

Astor Acquires Westerns

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 29.—Closing of a three-state deal for a series of eight "Wild Bill" Elliott reissues with Harold Schwartz, head of Tower Pictures of Dallas, has been announced by R. M. Savini, Astor Pictures president, who is here from New York for product talks. The states are Texas, Oklahoma and New Mexico.

Louisville Video Bid

LOUISVILLE, Aug. 29.—Mid-America Broadcasting Corp., which plans to have this city's sixth broadcasting station in operation by Nov. 1, has applied to the Federal Communications Commission for permission to set up a television station. If granted, it will be the city's third video outlet. Meanwhile, another new radio station, WLOU, is expected to start broadcasting on Sept. 30.

NBC Video Reel Moving

NBC Television Newsreel will move into new quarters in the RKO Pathe Studios here on Oct. 1 according to Sidney N. Strotz, the network's administrative vice-president in charge of television.

L.A. Tops Quota in Jewish Fund Drive

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 29.—The Los Angeles area has topped its \$10,000,000 quota for the United Jewish Welfare Fund, Samuel Goldwyn, president of the drive here, announced at the weekend. It is believed to be the largest amount ever subscribed in this community for a humanitarian cause.

Broadway Houses Get 'Youth' Short Today

"Families First," 10-minute short subject which is the second in a series on youth being produced by RKO Pathe for the New York State Youth Commission, will open today in New York's Broadway first-run theatres for a special engagement.

The picture, which has been endorsed by the Metropolitan Motion Picture Theatres Association, is being distributed gratis upon availability by 20th Century-Fox. It will move into second and subsequent runs following its Broadway engagements. Over 250 MMPTA member theatres in the Metropolitan area will exhibit the film which, following its regular theatre run, will be made available free in New York State to schools, agencies and other interested groups in 16mm.

Chouinard Named to UA Milwaukee Post

Caspar J. Chouinard has been appointed Milwaukee branch manager for United Artists, it is announced by Fred M. Jack, Western division manager. Chouinard, who joined U. A. as booker and office manager in Minneapolis in 1934, and was promoted to salesman in 1936, succeeds Robert Allen, resigned. For a brief interval last year Chouinard served as buyer for Associated Theatres of Minneapolis.

Jack, accompanied by W. E. Callaway, Western district manager, is due here today for home office conferences.

\$380,000 for 'Largo' Sets Strand Record

"Key Largo" brought the Strand here an estimated \$380,000 in a six-week record-making run which ended last Thursday night. Billie Holiday and Count Basie were on the stage. Gross for the run is the highest in the 34-year history of the house.

VFW Film Service Set

WASHINGTON, Aug. 29.—Film rental library for the Veterans of Foreign Wars Film Distribution Service through the Sherman Plan, Inc. and the Film Center of Washington, D. C., Inc., has been set here.

WB Promotes Gold

William Gold has been promoted to head of the Warner Bros. poster art department here as successor to Joe Tisman. He has been a member of the department for seven years.

Newsreel Parade

MR. KASENKINA talking and the Red hearings in Washington mark current newsreel highlights. Other items include the Berlin crisis, the heat wave and varied sports. Complete contents follow:

MOVIE TONE NEWS, No. 69—Soviet-U.S. crisis: Russia shuts its consulates. Mrs. Kasenkina exposes Red lie. Red inquiry in Washington. West guards zone in Berlin against Russian inroads. St. kids' baseball, five-year-old water star, boxing.

NEW S OF THE DAY, No. 303—Hiss vs. Chambers in Washington hearings. Mrs. Kasenkina's own story. Yanks block Red raids in Berlin zone. Soil conservation exhibit.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 2—Soviet rejects U.S. note. Back to school fashions. Hiss vs. Chambers at hearings. Heat wave.

UNIVERSAL NEWS, No. 173—Reds unmasked; consulates closed as teacher talks. News in brief: Donald O'Connor in South Africa; fire in Montreal. Five-year old water star. U.S. Red probe: Hiss and Chambers clash at hearing.

WARNER PATHE NEWS, No. 4—Russian teacher talks. Farm face-lifting. Red hearings in Washington. Suicide horse race in India. Great Americans: Gen. Pershing.

Bailey Quits 20th in Ont.; Stevens Moves

TORONTO, Aug. 29.—Harry J. Bailey has resigned as Ontario branch manager for 20th Century-Fox after many years in the post, and has been succeeded by Peter Myers, it has been announced by Arthur S. Silverstone, Canadian district manager. "Myers, who was with the Royal Canadian Air Force during most of the war, was formerly with Eagle-Lion Films of Canada where he held a similar position.

Larry Stevens has resigned as publicity director of United Artists of Canada to become executive assistant to Frank H. Fisher, general manager of Eagle-Lion here.

Grainger to Conduct 'Frisco Sales Meet

James R. Grainger, Republic executive vice-president in charge of distribution, will conduct a sales meeting in San Francisco during his stay on the Coast. He left here at the weekend for San Francisco to attend the wedding of Marie Wobber, daughter of Herman Wobber, to Marshall Naify, son of "Mike" Naify. Grainger will go to Los Angeles from San Francisco.

Scully Forms Mayfair

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 29.—Mayfair Pictures has been formed here by Peter Scully, former actor and film editor. It will release through Monogram. The company's first will be "The Rainmaker," slated to go into production Sept. 21.

Frank Goodale, 61

Frank Goodale, 61, for many years manager of Loew's State in White Plains, N. Y., died last Thursday in St. Petersburg, Fla., after a year's illness, it was reported here at the weekend by Loew's Theatres.

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Based on her famous radio play · A HAL WALLIS PRODUCTIONS, INC., PICTURE · Produced by
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Switch 20th's Sales Meet to West Coast

Twentieth Century-Fox will hold its domestic sales convention, originally scheduled for Chicago beginning Sept. 11, at National Theatres headquarters in Los Angeles, Sept. 14-17, instead, Andy W. Smith, Jr., general sales manager, announced on Friday. Spyros P. Skouras, president, and Darryl F. Zanuck, production vice-president, will address the parley, which will be attended by all branch and division managers and home office executives.

By-pass First Runs

(Continued from page 1)

official said that efforts to make clearance revisions are somewhat hampered by the complexities in New York marketing of product.

RKO's seven-day clearance over independent houses, one each in the Bronx, Brooklyn, Lynbrook and Long Beach, has been eliminated, as previously reported. While RKO has houses near the locations of the four, to what extent they are competitive is not easily discernible, Malcolm Kingsberg, president of RKO Theatres, said.

Evidence of the advantages of the clearance elimination for the independent can be only in the form of increased revenue for the independent in proportion to decreased earnings for the RKO situation, he explained. Even this formula cannot be too accurate, he added, because population in a given area and other more complex considerations must be made.

Petrillo

(Continued from page 1)

according to a joint statement issued by the AFM and the companies.

The AFM head made it clear to the producer representatives that "the union was taking cognizance temporarily of existing economic conditions, both at home and abroad, in the motion picture industry."

The old contract was to have expired tomorrow.

Independent producers are scheduled to begin separate talks this week with Petrillo in Hollywood.

Yates Takes Half

(Continued from page 1)

clared at this time, was passed by the board "due to unsettled conditions in the industry throughout the world."

All of the company's available cash above operational requirements will be used to further reduce the company's bank loans, it was stated.

Weiner Quits Classics

Sidney Weiner has resigned from the Film Classics sales department here. A new affiliation will be announced on his return from a vacation.

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Reviews

"An Innocent Affair"

(Nasser-United Artists)

AS a bright comedy of marital errors, "An Innocent Affair" is suffused generously with wit and substance. It is strictly an adult refreshment, and offers the assurance that there is nothing wrong with the wife-suspecting-her-husband formula that an adroit treatment cannot cure. The presentation has been given a resourceful production treatment by James Nasser, with Fred MacMurray and Madeleine Carroll handling the leads, and good assistance coming from Charles "Buddy" Rogers, Rita Johnson and Louise Allbritton.

When Miss Carroll learns that her advertising husband is spending his evenings with an attractive young lady, she is scarcely inclined to believe his story that it is all part of an attempt to get a new cosmetic account. Miss Carroll decides that the best strategy for a wife that is taken for granted is to make the spouse jealous. She hits upon the unconventional idea of hiring a man to flirt with her. The only trouble is that through a mistaken identity the one hired for the part is not the one that flirts with her. Thus the story merry-go-rounds into more and more complications. Of course there is nothing really morally wrong with the conduct of either, and so a happy reunion is inevitable, but not before some unused railroad tickets are bought for Reno.

Miss Carroll, back after too long an absence from the screen, interprets her role with great charm and talent. MacMurray is ably cast as the harassed husband who becomes ensnared in his own innocent little lies. As a tobacco tycoon who is unwittingly drawn into the triangle, Rogers offers another touch of farce to the adult proceedings.

Lloyd Bacon has done a neat job of direction from the original screenplay by Lou Breslow and Joseph Hoffman.

Running time, 90 minutes. Adult audience classification. Set for November release.

MANDEL HERBSTMAN

"Out of the Storm"

(Republic)

"OUT OF THE STORM" puts itself across as a pleasing hour's entertainment principally by virtue of its winning unpretentiousness. Modestly produced and peopled with not-too-well-known but competent actors, it chronicles a rather familiar tale about an obscure payroll clerk who couldn't resist the temptation of fleeing his company at an opportune moment and who thereafter finds it pretty difficult to live with his conscience. Lending strong emphasis to the "crime does not pay" theme, a neat, workmanlike directorial job by R. G. Springsteen has saved it from being too preachy, and the overall effect is one of satisfactory understatement.

During a hold-up at his place of business, James Lydon steals \$100,000 which was overlooked by gangster Marc Lawrence and his henchmen. Lydon's act, unsuspected by all connected with the company except insurance detective Richard Travis, grieves his sweetheart, Lois Collier, but she resigns herself to his attempt to get away with the deed since it means they will be financially able to marry. Conscience and girl friend win out over Lydon's insistence finally, after the young man, constantly haunted for the money by Lawrence, defeats the gangster in a showdown fist fight. Sidney Picker was associate producer. John K. Butler's tidy screenplay was based on a story by Gordon Rigby. Obviously, the title is unrelated to the story.

Running time, 61 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Aug. 25.

CHARLES L. FRANK

"Olympic Cavalcade"

(United Artists)

ALL the fervor and excitement of the 1936 Olympics in Berlin are recaptured in this adroitly-photographed documentary. The film has an especial appropriateness in the light of the current Olympics. Showmen, however, should take care to acquaint their audiences with the fact that these are the 1936 and not the 1948 games.

The film has been edited to present the highlights of American victories, but there is an abundance of footage in which foreign stars figure. Athletes from 51 nations participated in the games with some 600 cameramen photographing the results. Among the winners are such well-remembered giants of the sport world as Jesse Owens, Glenn Morris, Ralph Metcalfe, Frank Wycoffe and Jack Parker. All are seen in vibrant moments. Bill Slater has provided a brisk and informative commentary for this Westport-International film.

Running time, 56 minutes. General audience classification. Set for August release.

To Handle Importations

Geritone Company has been established here to distribute Hungarian, Rumanian and German films in the U. S. Bernard Garay, Arnold Salge and Sigmund Miko head the new organization. First release will be "Young Hearts," Hungarian musical.

Intermountain to Build

SALT LAKE CITY, Aug. 29.—Fox-Intermountain Theatres has bought property in Missoula, Mont., to build a 1,200-seat theatre, work to begin within 60 days. Mel Glatz of Fox in Denver is in charge of construction.

'Stations West' Debut

CHICAGO, Aug. 29.—RKO Radio will have its third premiere here this year when it launches "Stations West" in a territorial premiere simultaneously here and in Milwaukee in October. A contingent of stars from Hollywood is expected to attend.

Begin Salt Lake Bldg.

SALT LAKE CITY, Aug. 29.—Construction has been started on Intermountain Theatre Supply's new two-story office building on Film Row. The building will also contain a 100-seat screening room and other offices.

Five-day Week Hurts Canadian Business

TORONTO, Aug. 29.—General adoption of a five-day week by industries, offices and many large stores is adversely affecting theatre business on Saturdays, particularly in the downtown section of Toronto, and managers are starting to complain.

Neighborhood theatres are also feeling a difference because people are taking on two-day trips. Other large Canadian cities are also noting the trend.

400 New Pictures in Berlin Since V-E Day

BERLIN, Aug. 22 (By Airmail).—A total of 400 new films, only 21 of them German, have been exhibited in all four zones of Berlin since the close of the war. The number of production companies in Berlin has grown to 11 since V-E Day.

MPAA's Trade Deal

(Continued from page 1)

blocking American film earnings in a number of Western European countries during the last three months, with as much as \$100,000 having been released in one unspecified country. He declined to reveal the total amount already freed in Europe under the MPAA-WCC deal or to disclose the sums gained in individual countries, indicating that he preferred to await the return to New York of Mayer, who has been in Paris on MPAA business for more than a month.

Pepper did say, however, that he believes as much as \$200,000 will be unblocked in Italy for the industry by WCC before the end of this year. Queried on the possibilities in France, he said he doubted whether it would ever be possible for WCC efforts to unfreeze American earnings in that country in light of conditions there.

The plan, as explained by an MPAA spokesman in May, calls for WCC to allot dollars for the increasing of an individual country's commodities export business, on the provision that the country release an equal amount of blocked American film earnings. Part of WCC's profit under the arrangement comes in the form of "commissions", from U. S. companies, through MPAA.

ECA Action Due

(Continued from page 1)

quite possibly the first contract issued to any industry under the \$300,000,000 guarantee section of the ECA act. Of the \$300,000,000, \$10,000,000 is earmarked for books, newspapers, films, and magazines.

ECA officials said that a report from Gen. Clay in Berlin that the first contract with MPEA had been signed was "premature." They explained that guarantee contracts must be agreed to first by the participating country, and that the report from Berlin merely should have said that Gen. Clay approved his end of the agreement and that the matter now is before the ECA for action here.

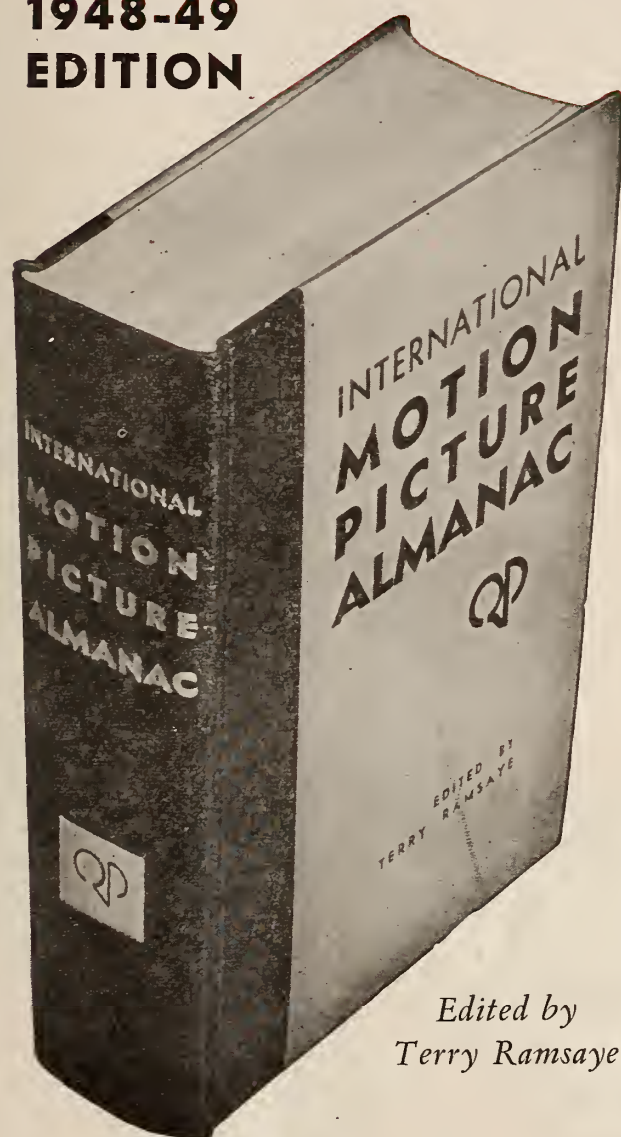
The amount in the MPEA contract has not been announced.

Buys Spokane House

SPOKANE, Aug. 29.—W. K. Beckwith has purchased the Liberty Theatre here from Gamble Theatres. Beckwith also has an interest in the Ritz here, and a theatre in Moses Lake, Wash.

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1948-49
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*Edited by
Terry Ramsaye*

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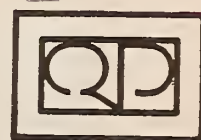
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Filmed amid the breathtaking grandeur of the mightiest peaks of our continent...acted magnificently by a trio of top stars—Joan Leslie, James Craig and Jack Oakie...jam-packed with all the thundering action of the wildest rodeo on earth—the fabulous "Calgary Stampede"...

"CINCH TO HIT NEAT GROSSES AT TURNSTILES!"—DAILY VARIETY... "ENTERTAINMENT FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY!"—EXHIBITOR... "EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY TO CASH IN!"—MOTION PICTURE DAILY... "SPARKLES WITH FINE SCENES... SHOT IN VERY GOOD CINECOLOR!"—MOTION PICTURE HERALD... "MAXIMUM OF ACTION!"—VARIETY... "EXCELLENT MARQUEE NAMES!"—SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW... "PHOTOGRAPHY ENHANCES THE BEAUTY!"—BOX OFFICE "GORGEOUS SCENIC PANORAMA!"—HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

"NORTHWEST STAMPEDE"

IN CINECOLOR!



JOAN LESLIE as "Chris Johnson"



JAMES CRAIG as "Dan Bennett"

JOAN LESLIE · JAMES CRAIG · JACK OAKIE in "NORTHWEST STAMPEDE"
with CHILL WILLS · VICTOR KILIAN and The Dog, "FLAME" in CINECOLOR

Executive Producer: David Hersh · Produced and Directed by Albert S. Rogell · Story and Screenplay by Art Arthur and Lili Hayward
Suggested by Saturday Evening Post Article "Wild Horse Roundup" by Jean Muir · An EAGLE LION FILMS Production



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64. NO. 43

NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, AUGUST 31, 1948

TEN CENTS

State Taxes On Admissions Show Increase

33 States Collect New High of \$17,159,000

WASHINGTON, Aug. 30. — State governments collected \$17,159,000 in taxes on admissions and amusements in the year ending June 30, the Census Bureau estimates. This was a sharp increase over the \$14,216,000 reported last year, which in turn was up sharply over earlier years.

The Bureau reported 33 states had admissions and amusement taxes during the last fiscal year, compared with only 28 during the 1947 fiscal year. No breakdown was available as to how much of the receipts came from motion picture theatres. On the other hand, a few states included their receipts from film admission taxes not in the admissions and amusement brackets but rather along with pari-mutuel receipts, so that the two factors might balance out, census officials said.

State collections from licenses on amusements and race tracks continued

(Continued on page 3)

RKO Schedule Near Completion: Depinet

RKO's 1949 production schedule is practically complete, according to Ned E. Depinet, executive vice-president, who returned to New York yesterday following four weeks at meetings with studio executives and Howard Hughes, principal stockholder.

"Eighteen of the 20 to 24 top-bracket pictures that RKO customarily distributes each year are either finished and ready for release or undergoing

(Continued on page 3)

3 Percentage Suits Settled Out of Court

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 30.—Three percentage suits brought by Paramount, Loew's, and 20th Century-Fox against the Forum Theatre, Barstow, Cal., have been settled. The suits were pending in the U. S. District court here. In each suit a stipulation has been filed by the defendant stating that it has accounted to the respective plaintiff for the amount found to be due.

The stipulation further provides that the suits were dismissed by agreement between the respective parties.

Heat Withers N. Y. Runs But 'Rope' Heads for \$60,000

Grosses dropped with the heat at several New York first runs over the weekend, but in spite of the thermometer reading some new attractions in town are running up top returns.

"The Rope" is a standout performer at the Globe, where \$60,000 is expected for a first week. "The Lady in Ermine" gave the Roxy a very healthy \$105,000 in its first six days. The Roxy's stage bill includes Frances Langford, Jon Hall, Jerry Colonna and a nice revue. The Strand's "Two Guys from Texas," with "Win-

(Continued on page 3)

FCC Defers Rule on Para. Video Status

WASHINGTON, Aug. 30.—The Federal Communications Commission today turned down a Paramount petition for an immediate determination of whether Paramount controls Allen B. DuMont Laboratories and thus controls five television stations, the maximum allowed any one firm by the Commission.

The Commission pointed out that hearings on applications by Paramount, 20th Century-Fox and three other firms for two San Francisco video channels have been concluded. It is said it thought it "conducive to more orderly administrative procedure" if the Paramount-DuMont issue were determined as part of the decision on the San Francisco applications rather than separately and immediately.

Johnston Optimistic About Getting Results in U. K.

LONDON, Aug. 30.—Eric A. Johnston, Motion Picture Association of America president, indicated here today that he still has hopes of reporting definite achievement before he leaves for the Continent on Wednesday.

His statement was made despite an ineffectual visit with Harold Wilson, president of the Board of Trade, at the Mitre Hotel, Oxford, yesterday. His optimism is not shared in trade circles here.

Johnston seized the opportunity provided by his visit with Wilson to catalogue for the latter the affronts

Mexican Censors Bar 'Disparaging' Films

Mexico City, Aug. 30.—The National Cinematographic Commission has ordered the Mexican censors to delete from pictures for exhibition in this country any footage which in any way disparages any country with which Mexico is friendly.

Exhibitors Asked to Rate Distributors

COLUMBUS, O., Aug. 30.—Poll on the standing of 13 film companies with Ohio exhibitors is being taken by P. J. Wood, secretary of the Independent Theatre Owners of Ohio, and will be used as a basis for discussion at the ITO convention here, Sept. 14 and 15.

The questionnaire asks ratings on the following distributors: Columbia, 20th Century-Fox, M-G-M, Paramount, RKO, Warners, United Artists, Republic, Monogram, Eagle-Lion, Film Classics, Universal and SRO.

Included are queries on frequency of salesmen's visits, last time the branch manager visited the account, check on product the exhibitor is not using now but would like to use if satisfactory terms could be arranged, length of time since a salesman of companies the exhibitor does not buy from has called on the exhibitor, company with most valuable product for the exhibitor, company with least valuable product, company with fairest sales policy and company most difficult to deal with.

UA Has Films For 8 Months, Sears Reports

Future Bright; Hughes To Finance 3 New Ones

United Artists is stocked with product for the next six to eight months with films already on hand or slated for early availability from

its producers, and all indications point to a smooth course of operation beyond that period, Grad Sears, president, told the press yesterday.

He spoke at length about Howard Hawks' "Red River," which he said, figures to wind up as the company's

greatest money-maker, surpassing "Spellbound," which holds the record now at about \$5,000,000 in domestic rentals.

UA pictures moving into national

(Continued on page 2)

British Film Boycott Assailed by Warner

The boycotting of British pictures by organized groups here was called "ridiculous" by Jack L. Warner, vice-president and executive producer of Warner Brothers, who arrived here from England yesterday on the SS *Queen Mary*. Other arrivals included Gen. William J. Donovan, of the law firm of Donovan, Leisure, Newton, Lombard and Irvine, attorneys for RKO Radio; Kay Harrison, man-

(Continued on page 2)

Morris J. Siegel, 47; Helped Form Republic

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 30.—Funeral services will be held at noon tomorrow at Groman Mortuary for Morris J. Siegel, 47, who died Saturday night following a heart attack while returning here by train from New York. Siegel, who was with his brother Sol, 20th Century-Fox producer, at the time, resigned last January as an M-G-M production executive.

Siegel was associated with Selznick

(Continued on page 3)



Grad Sears

Personal Mention

HERBERT J. YATES, Republic president, will leave New York today for the Coast.

MAURICE A. BERGMAN, Universal-International Eastern advertising-publicity director, accompanied by **CHARLES SIMONELLI**, Eastern exploitation manager, will leave here today for Chicago and Cincinnati.

LEROY PRINZ, Warner dance director, became a grandfather last week when his daughter, **MRS. J. ALLAN MONTEI**, gave birth to a daughter. The child's father is associated with Technicolor.

JACK ELLIS, New York district manager for United Artists, has returned to New York from Albany and Gloversville.

LOU J. KAUFMAN, Warner theatre executive, will be in Cleveland today from New York and will go from there to Pittsburgh.

JAMES E. SCOVILLE, retired member of the Scoville, Essick and Reif circuit, Cleveland, is visiting that city from Tucson.

EDWARD A. GOLDEN, producer, has returned to New York from Hollywood.

H. TED ROUTSON, manager of the Little Theatre, Baltimore, is vacationing in the Pennsylvania mountains.

J. MYER SCHINE, Schine Circuit executive, was in town yesterday from Gloversville, N. Y.

WALTER WANGER is due here tomorrow from the Coast.

JULES LEVEY, producer, is due in New York from Hollywood today.

RKO Exchange Fire

A fire of undetermined origin which broke out in the RKO exchange on the eighth floor of the Film Center Bldg., here, early Sunday morning, resulted in the damage of film, reel cases and two rugs. Thirteen firemen were felled by smoke fumes while fighting the blaze.

Opens with New Screen

TACOMA, Aug. 30.—The Temple Theatre here reopened today equipped with the new Pan-a-VVE screen, curved to eliminate side-view distortion. It is the invention of **William Ramstad**, professor at the Pacific Lutheran College here.

Mystery Solved

For eight weeks the "Phantom Voice" on Columbia Broadcasting's "Sing It Again" show remained unidentified. Then at the weekend a contestant guessed right and collected \$24,000 in prizes. **Louis B. Mayer** was the "Phantom."

UA Product

(Continued from page 1)

release, or due shortly, include: "Time of Your Life" (Cagney), "So This Is New York" (Enterprise), "Texas, Brooklyn and Heaven" (Golden), "Pitfall" (Sam Bischoff), "Vicious Circle" (W. Lee Wilder), "Innocent Affair" (James Nasser), "My Dear Secretary" (Harry Popkin), "Girl from Manhattan" (Benedict Bogeaus) and "High Fury" (Buddy Rogers-Ralph Cohn).

Sears announced a new releasing deal had been made with **Morris Siegel** for a picture to star **Shirley Temple** just before Siegel's death last Saturday. Sears listed other forthcoming product from 14 additional producers.

3 to Replace Hughes' 3

Sears said that **Howard Hughes** has agreed to "finance and cause to be delivered" three pictures by independent producers to UA in the agreement under which **Hughes Tool Co.** takes full possession of "The Outlaw," "Vendetta" and "Mad Wednesday." The three were made for UA distribution originally but when Hughes acquired control of RKO he asked for release from the UA commitment. Sears said that the full responsibility of getting the three new ones for UA rests on Hughes and added the second-money financing might involve \$600,000 to \$750,000.

Quality of the three pictures, their producers and the subject matter will be up to Sears to approve and until he is satisfied on all counts UA will not relinquish the Hughes films, Sears said. Hughes' role in financing the new films can give him a profit as an investor, Sears explained. He said he will leave here from the Coast today or tomorrow to close the deal.

Snag on 'River' Bookings

Returning to "Red River," Sears admitted that negotiations with **Charles Skouras** for bookings in Fox West Coast theatres have hit a snag and there is a possibility the picture will be sold away from the circuit. He said final action in this regard will be determined at a meeting with **James Mulvey**, president of Goldwyn Productions, which is representing producer **Hawks**, and others. **W. E. Callaway**, UA's Los Angeles district manager, is here to join in the discussions.

Sears said he expects other suits here such as the action by the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers against **United Detroit Theatres** and **Cooperative Theatres of Michigan**. He said that UA is involved in this suit in that the company figures to collect its share, as a distributor, in any damages awarded the producer plaintiffs which release through UA.

Financing of independent production is brighter with "several new banks" having moved into the field, Sears reported.

Heads NAB Video Unit

WASHINGTON, Aug. 30. — **Harry Bannister** has been elected chairman of the national advisory committee of the National Association of Broadcasters.

Warner Assails

(Continued from page 1)

aging director of Technicolor, Ltd.; **Jock Lawrence**, executive vice-president of the J. Arthur Rank organization; and **Sydney Wynne**, head of publicity for the Rank organization.

Explaining his viewpoint on the boycott, Warner declared that the public would respond to quality films irrespective of where they were made. He said that his company intends to make several films in London and that it now has underway there "Under Capricorn," which stars **Ingrid Bergman** and **Joseph Cotten**, with **Alfred Hitchcock** directing. Plans for production in other parts of Europe were termed "incomplete."

Harrison declared that in nine months Technicolor in England expects to handle 18 features a year, compared to four before the war. He asserted the company now has four cameras in England and is building more. He predicted the bottlenecks

would be broken in nine months. Plans for the construction of Technicolor laboratories in France are not ready yet, he said.

Lawrence declared that there is very little knowledge in England of a boycott of their films. He said the matter was too indefinite to assess results. Discussing new Rank product, he said the company now has 10 films equal in box-office stature to "Hamlet."

Wynne announced that he was here for the opening of the **Odeon-Carlton Theatre** in Toronto on Sept. 9. A new house is the 12th of an anticipated 40 new theatres. **Odeon Circuit** now has 112 houses in Canada. **Wynne** expressed surprise when told that "Oliver Twist" has been condemned in certain circles here as intolerant. He said there was no such reaction in Britain to the film. The **Odeon-Carlton** is to open with "Oliver Twist."

Donovan declined to discuss industry matters, declaring he was "far removed" from the situation.

K. C. Testimonial for Eyssell on Oct. 14

KANSAS CITY, Aug. 30.—**Gus Eyssell**, executive manager of New York's Rockefeller Center and president of Radio City Music Hall, will be given a testimonial dinner at the **Muehlebach Hotel** here on Oct. 14 by the motion picture industry of Kansas City. An all-industry affair with executives from all segments of the business expected to participate, the testimonial will mark **Eyssell's** career from the time he began as an usher at the **Isis Theatre** here in 1918 while he was still attending high school.

Elmer C. Rhoden, president of Fox Midwest, is general chairman, and **Ben Shlyen**, **Arthur Cole** and **Senn Lawler** are co-chairmen of the arrangements committee for the dinner.

Cole Leaves Franconi

DALLAS, Aug. 30.—Severing his connection with the **John L. Franconi** enterprises, **Don Cole** has resigned as special representative in Texas for **Screen Guild** and **Oklahoma manager for Favorite Films**. At the same time he has disposed of his stock interests in some affiliated companies in the **Franconi** set-up. **Cole** recently underwent an operation and will recuperate at his home in Oklahoma before he announces new business connections.

'Youth Month' Credit

Support of Ohio's Governor **Herbert** in promoting "Youth Month" was enlisted by the Independent Theatre Owners of Ohio, **P. J. Wood**, secretary of the organization, advises. A Theatre Owners of America spokesman here said yesterday that **TOA's** assuming credit for the gubernatorial assist presumably was the result of a misunderstanding.

SDG Cites Zinneman

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 30.—First of the **Screen Directors Guild's** quarterly awards for best directorial achievement has been conferred on **Fred Zinneman** for M-G-M's "The Search." The citations, established recently, are conferred by a vote of the **SDG** membership.

Johnston

(Continued from page 1)

ported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on Friday.

Johnston said he may call a conference of the whole press tomorrow if American managers here can agree on a united campaign to deal with the industry's problems here, particularly should there be an agreement on joint action against Rank, such as a refusal to permit Rank's theatres to book top American product for the lower half of double bills.

Johnston will meet with **W. R. Fuller**, general secretary of the Cinematograph Exhibitors Association, who returned from France today. He will have further talks with British exhibitors on his return here from the Continent toward the end of September.

Johnston had lunch today with a few editors of national newspapers to whom he also explained the American industry's grievances.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
"A DATE WITH JUDY"
Wallace BEERY • **Jane POWELL**
Elizabeth TAYLOR • **Carmen MIRANDA**
Xavier CUGAT • **Robert STACK**
A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

ROY DEL RUTH'S "THE BABE RUTH STORY"
WILLIAM CLARK
BENOIX-TREVOR
An Allied Artists Production
ASTOR 8 WAY AT
COOL
Cant. Performances • Pop. Price

29 in Production As Eight Films Start

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 30.—The production index rose to 29 from last week's tally of 23. Eight new films were started while only two were sent to the cutters.

Shooting started on "The Crime Doctor's Diary," Columbia; "Reign of Terror" (Wanger), Eagle-Lion; "The Green Promise" (Glenn McCarthy); "Gunning for Justice," Monogram; "The Missourians" and "Fighter of the Jungle," Republic; "Happy Times" and "Two Guys and a Gal," Warner Brothers.

Shooting finished on "Sand," 20th Century-Fox and "Love Happy" (Artists Alliance) (formerly "Blondes Up"), United Artists.

Phila. V.C. Golf Tourney

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 30.—Max R. Leven has been named chairman of the committee in charge of arrangements for the local Variety Club's annual golf tournament and dinner-dance at the Whitmarsh Country Club Saturday.

State Taxes

(Continued from page 1)

to drop. The 33 states having such levies took in only \$3,501,000 during the fiscal year just ended, compared with \$4,010,000 collected by 34 states the previous year, and collections of \$4,201,000 in fiscal 1946.

New general sales taxes were levied in four states during the period covered by the report, and this, along with rising prices and increased business activity, boosted general sales tax collections by 25 per cent over fiscal 1947 to \$1,500,000. This is three times the 1940 yield. State tax collections of all types totaled \$7,900,000,000, an increase of more than \$1,100,000,000 from 1947.

Harry McClure

KANSAS CITY, Aug. 30.—Harry McClure, who retired several years ago because of illness after 20 years with Fox Midwest as a district manager, died in an Emporia hospital on Friday. Funeral services will be held tomorrow. He is survived by the widow and two sons.

H. E. Sullivan

WICHITA, Kan., Aug. 30.—H. E. Sullivan, former exhibitor at Newkirk, Okla., and associated with his brother, O. F. Sullivan, in drive-in operations in that state, died here today following a heart attack while visiting a sister who is ill in a hospital here. He retired from active theatre operations last Jan. 1. His brother, who has several theatres here, is president of the Kansas-Missouri Allied unit.

Morris Siegel

(Continued from page 1)

Pictures, then joined Consolidated Film Industries and subsequently was president of American Record Co., Consolidated subsidiary. He participated in the formation of Republic Pictures of which he was president from 1937 to 1944. He joined M-G-M studios as a production executive in March, 1944.

In addition to his brother, Sol C., he leaves the widow, three other brothers, two sisters and two daughters.

RKO Schedule

(Continued from page 1)

final steps of editing and scoring," Depinet said. "The additional features which will complete the year's program are now being readied," he added.

Depinet said that it was a "source of great satisfaction to see how well the studio was functioning under the production committee consisting of Sid Rogell, C. J. Tevlin and Bicknell Lockhart.

New House for Utah

SALT LAKE CITY, Aug. 30.—Construction is scheduled to get under way here early in September on a \$350,000 theatre to be operated by D. K. Edwards and Joseph L. Lawrence. The house will seat 1,300.

New York Grosses

(Continued from page 1)

ner Take All," a give-away show, on stage, should complete a first week with \$40,000, good enough. "Tap Roots" figures to give the Criterion a hefty \$45,000 in an initial week.

"Pitfall," with Dick Powell in person, probably will wind up a second week at the Capitol with \$72,000, as against the first week's take of \$98,500. "Date With Judy" with the stage presentation slipped a little in its fourth week at the Music Hall, estimated at \$140,000, but stays for a fifth. "Beyond Glory," with Peggy Lee and Ray Eberle on stage at the Paramount, is down to \$60,000 in its fourth week, and will be replaced tomorrow by "Sorry, Wrong Number," with Carmen Cavallaro on stage.

"Loves of Carmen" will bow in at the State on Thursday, following "Easter Parade." The latter will conclude its ninth and final week with \$27,000, about fair. "Race Street" is adequate in a second week at the Mayfair, estimated at \$25,000. The Gotham, which has been playing reissue combinations, will bring in a new one, "Ruthless," on Friday. The fifth week of "Babe Ruth Story" should provide the Astor with an unimpressive \$18,000. "Mr. Peabody and the Mermaid" will complete a third and final week at the Winter Garden with only \$9,000, estimated, and will be succeeded on Friday by "Larceny."

Spy Reports Boost 'Curtain' Revenue

Current headlines have been responsible for a substantial increase in business done by "The Iron Curtain," 20th Century-Fox reports. Disclosures of spy activities and other phases of the national situation have brought the picture a total of more than 10,000 contracts, the company said.

BIG NEWS!



Now you can enjoy fast, comfortable
Flagship SKYSLEEPERS
to Los Angeles!

EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 1



American is First Again with the Only Coast-to-Coast
Skysleepers... Luxurious DC-6 Accommodations

Now, American provides spacious Skyberths aboard the famous DC-6 "Mercury" flight to Los Angeles! Eight roomy Skyberths supplement 36 comfortable seat accommodations. Here's your first opportunity to sleep your way West in a DC-6 Skysleeper, over American's Southern Transconti-

ental Route. It's the fast, comfortable way to go... a real rest cure aloft!

THE MERCURY departs daily at midnight EDT—arrives Los Angeles 8:10 a.m. PDT. Sleeper passengers may board an hour before departure.

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WILL BE YOUR PAY DAY!

AMERICA'S FI OF TOP SECRET BLASTED



SCOTLAND YARD



FIFTH COLUMN THE TRAITORS BY FBI!

LEND A HAND

...WITH A GUN IN IT...

TO AVENGE G-MAN'S MURDER!



COLUMBIA PICTURES presents

WALK A CROOKED MILE

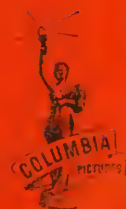
starring **Louis HAYWARD · Dennis O'KEEFE**

with **LOUISE ALLBRITTON**

CARL ESMOND

An EDWARD SMALL Production

Screenplay by George Bruce • Directed by GORDON DOUGLAS • Produced by GRANT WHYTECK



The Most Famous Short Subject Ever Made!

NOW AVAILABLE AGAIN FOR THE FIRST TIME IN TEN YEARS!

Sensational return of the best loved, biggest-money short on record! Booked for pre-release showing in

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL

and already set for 200 other major first runs in its first release week!... Bigger boxoffice today than ever --- with new and old audiences to attract!... Sell it like a top feature attraction and CASH IN!

PLAY ALL SIX!

They're The Academy Award-Winning, all-time cream of the Disney crop!

Walt Disney's

THREE LITTLE PIGS

HAWAIIAN HOLIDAY

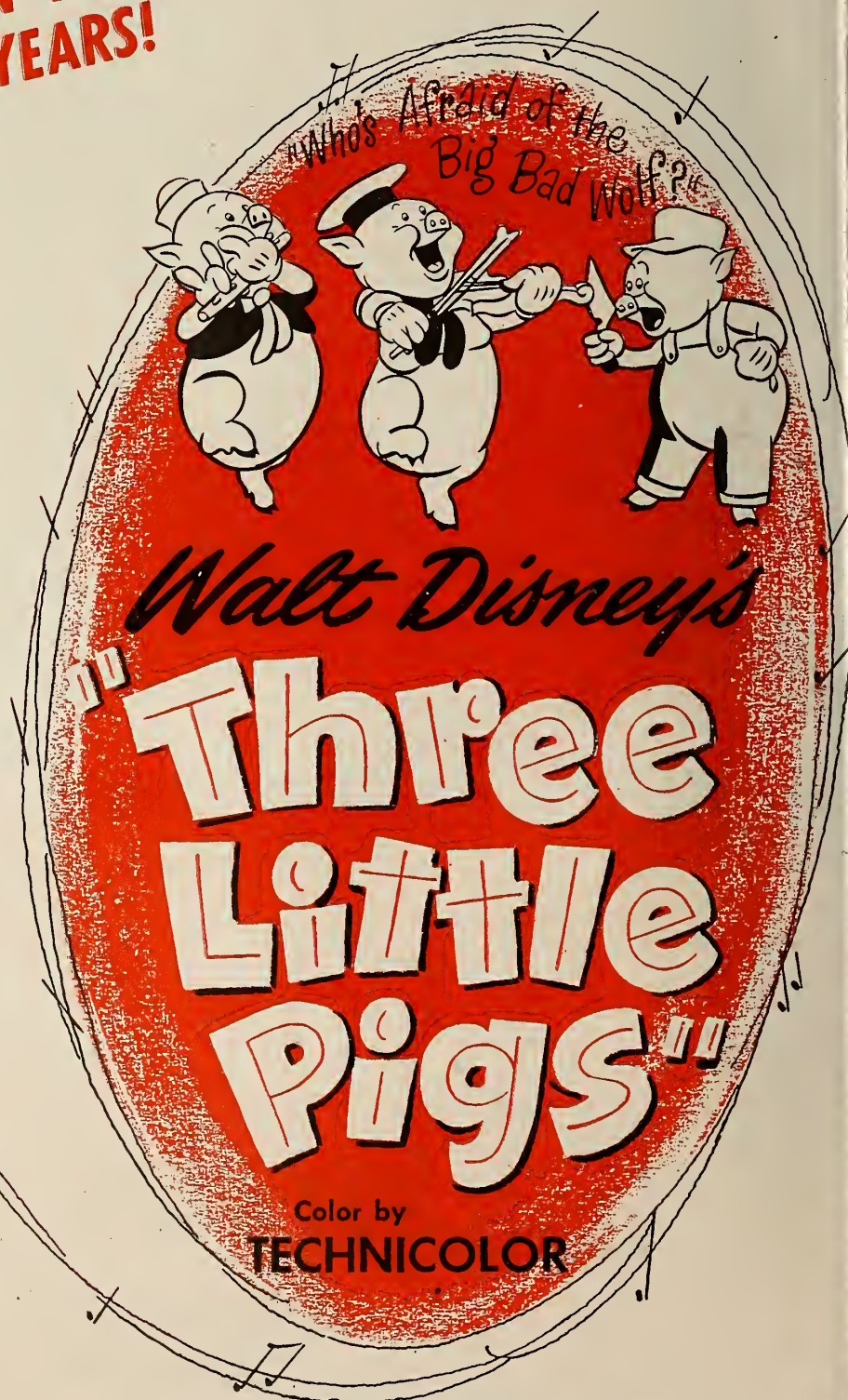
LITTLE HIAWATHA

WOODLAND CAFE

ALPINE CLIMBERS

CLOCK CLEANERS

YOUTH MONTH
SALUTING
YOUNG AMERICA



Re-Released by RKO RADIO PICTURES, Inc.

Accurate
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Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

FIRST
IN
FILM
NEWS

64. NO. 44

NEW YORK, U.S.A., WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1948

TEN CENTS

Ask Gov't. to Tell Its Facts In Para. Case

Paramount, RKO Want Details of Evidence

Legal skirmishes in the industry anti-trust suit continue with the newest maneuver in the form of searching interrogatories which have been served on the Department of Justice by defendants Paramount and RKO.

In two separate documents closely alike in phraseology, the film companies ask the Government to tell all about the evidence upon which it intends to rely to establish that the defendants are guilty of conspiracy, monopoly and trade restraints in exhibition.

The Department is asked to identify theatres illegally acquired and in what specific manner; to identify theatres utilized as part of a conspiracy to eliminate or suppress competition and how the conspiracy works; to tell where joint ownerships exist and where theatres would be operated by independents if it were not for such partnerships.

Paramount and RKO accompany
(Continued on page 5)

DeMille's Radio Job Revives AFRA Test

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 31.—Cecil B. DeMille's announced return to radio as producer-narrator on a one-hour weekly dramatic show over the Mutual network next winter revives the question whether or not he will be required to pay the \$1 assessment to American Federation of Radio Artists. DeMille has been off the air for four years as a result of his refusal to pay the assessment.

Indications are that DeMille would fortify his arguments for a strong right-to-work law in the event AFRA
(Continued on page 5)

Companies' Proposals To Colosseum Today

Distributors' proposals are scheduled to be offered today to the negotiating committee of the Colosseum of Motion Picture Salesmen of America, a Colosseum spokesman indicated yesterday. The second series of conferences on a wages-and-hours contract for the newly-unionized salesmen of the industry were resumed here on Monday.

E-L Sets 17 For 8 Months

Seventeen features carrying a total production cost of \$22,950,000 have been scheduled for release by Eagle-Lion during the next six or eight months, E-L advertising-publicity vice-president Max Youngstein said yesterday following his return from Coast production conferences with E-L president Arthur B. Krim, distribution vice-president William J. Heineman, production executive Bryan Foy and others.

Youngstein listed the films as follows: "Hollow Triumph," "Northwest Stampede," "He Walked by Night," "The Big Cat" (first E-L Technicolor release), Walter Wanger's "Tulsa," "Red Stallion in the Rockies" (Cinecolor), Wanger's "Reign of Terror." Also "Twelve Against the Underworld," starring Robert Young; "Border Patrol," a sequel to "T-Men";
(Continued on page 4)

AFM-Independents Pact Meet Friday

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 31.—Negotiations between independent producers and the American Federation of Musicians for a new contract to supplant the pact which expires at midnight tonight will get under way Friday afternoon at headquarters of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers in Beverly Hills. All Hollywood independents, including SIMPP and Independent Motion Picture Producers Association members together with others who belong to neither of these organ-
(Continued on page 5)

Paramount Answers U. S. on Some Points, Rejects Others

Interrogatories which the Department of Justice served on defendants in the industry anti-trust case have been answered in part by Paramount but the information imparted has, to a large extent, been a matter of court record for some time.

Paramount reported on its theatre holdings in Texas, Arkansas and New England, giving dates of incorporations, stockholders and voting shares, and terms of partnership agreements. Much of it was told before in Paramount's first report on its theatre interests submitted to the New York Federal Court more than a year ago.

Paramount declined to answer Government queries Nos. 4, 5 and 6. In
(Continued on page 5)

REFUSE TOP FILMS FOR RANK'S DUALS

Anglo-U.S. Film Unit To Meet Here in Nov.

London, Aug. 31.—A meeting of the Anglo-American Film Committee was arranged for early in November in New York by Eric Johnston, Motion Picture Association of America president, today. British members of the committee, J. Arthur Rank, Sir Henry French and Sir Alexander Korda, will travel to New York for the meeting.

American members of the committee are Johnston, Nicholas M. Schenck and Barney Balaban.

Eliminate Dubbing, Latins Recommend

WASHINGTON, Aug. 31.—The Spanish-American Motion Picture Congress, which closed in Madrid early in July, recommended the gradual elimination of dubbing pictures made in languages other than Spanish, with the exception of certain films of "exceptional interest" which could continue to be dubbed.

This was reported by Commerce Department film chief Nathan D. Golden today. He said the resolution was offered in even more extreme
(Continued on page 4)

Johnston Says Can't Use Best U.S. Pictures to Carry Weak U. K. Films

LONDON, Aug. 31. — American film companies will not tolerate the use of better American product to bolster British films on double feature programs in J. Arthur Rank's theatres, Eric A. Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association of America, told a press conference here today.

Johnston said he had advised Rank of this decision by the American companies, informing the British leader that the Americans are determined to take bookings for a complete program or nothing. Apparently there is agreement among American managers here on this.

It was learned privately that Johnston visited both U. S. Ambassador Lewis Douglas and Britain's Foreign Minister Ernest Bevin, acquainted them with the situation and found them in implicit agreement with his views.

At his press conference today, Johnston repeated that it is up to Rank to make his choice of future procedure
(Continued on page 4)

U. A. Closes Dutch Distribution Deal

Arthur W. Kelly, executive vice-president of United Artists, has concluded a five-year franchise agreement with F. L. D. Strengholt, head of N. V. Film-Verhuurkantoor Nederland, under which the latter will distribute UA product in Holland, starting Friday. Announcement of the deal was cabled from London to the home office by Kelly yesterday.

Kelly has been surveying the com-
(Continued on page 4)

Agnew Leaves SRO; To France Friday

Neil F. Agnew officially withdrew as president of Selznick Releasing Organization yesterday, his resignation, made public several weeks ago, becoming effective today.

Agnew will leave here for Paris on Friday to join his wife. He plans to spend five or six months annually in France hereafter, and the remainder of his time at his Connecticut farm.

Goldwyn Firm May Represent Wanger

Goldwyn Productions still figures as possible producer's representative in the selling of Walter Wanger's "Joan of Arc" with negotiations expected to be resumed here upon Wanger's arrival today from the Coast.

The fact that discussions began several weeks ago with no agreement reached had been considered an indication that the deal had fallen through.

The Goldwyn company, of which James Mulvey is president, recently closed with Howard Hawks to represent the latter in distribution of his "Red River," a United Artists release.

Bingo Bill Defeated In NJ Legislature

Legislation designed to legalize Bingo playing in New Jersey churches for charity purposes has been defeated in the state senate by a vote of 32 to 13, it was reported here yesterday by George Gold, chairman of the New Jersey Allied legislative committee. Jersey Allied had been in the forefront of a concerted attack against the measure, regarding it as a threat to theatre business in New Jersey.

Gold said the bill is "as good as dead for the present," explaining that it will be possible for sponsors to revive the measure at the special session of the New Jersey legislature scheduled for this month and Jersey Allied, therefore, has not given up its vigil since it would be possible to pass the bill with softening amendments.

80 Phila. Exhibitors To Aid Hospital Drive

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 31.—Some 80 local exhibitors pledged support to the current Will Rogers Memorial Hospital drive at a luncheon meeting at the Broadwood Hotel here yesterday. Sentiment was also voiced favoring showing of a trailer to be furnished by National Screen Service and to take up theatre collections. Earle Sweigert, Paramount Eastern division manager, was chairman of the meeting, while A. Montague, chairman of the district committee; William Scully and Sam Shain attended from New York.

'Youth Month' Gets Under Way in Mich.

DETROIT, Aug. 31.—Statements by Gov. Kim Sigler and Mayor Eugene Van Antwerp officially recognize September as Youth Month here.

More than 500 theatres in Michigan are cooperating in the campaign, some of them offering special matinee programs, with proceeds to go to a special youth fund. James F. Sharkey, general manager of Cooperative Theatres of Michigan, is chairman of the drive here.

Chi. Railroad Fair To Observe 'TOA Day'

CHICAGO, Aug. 31.—Sept. 24 will be celebrated as "Theatre Owners of America Day" at Chicago's current Railroad Fair, in connection with the TOA convention at the Drake Hotel on Sept. 24-25.

Meanwhile, Dave Wallerstein, chairman of the convention registration committee, has named the following Chicago theatremen to his committee: Tom Gilliam, Sam Gorelick, Herb Wheeler and William Holden.

Perlman to Filmack

CHICAGO, Aug. 31.—Harold Perlman, formerly advertising and publicity director for RKO Theatres in New Orleans, has rejoined the Filmack Trailer Corp. of Chicago in charge of advertising.

Personal Mention

GRAD SEARS, United Artists president, will leave here today for the Coast.

MORRIS WOLF, M-G-M home office publicist, will address the Kiwanis Clubs of Albany, Schenectady, Utica, Binghamton, Glens Falls and Amsterdam this month. FLOYD FITZSIMMONS, M-G-M exploiter in Albany and Buffalo, will accompany him on the trip.

CHARLES BOASBERG, RKO Radio North-South division manager, is in Canada and, following his return here, will leave for Oklahoma City.

CARROLL PUCIATO and JAMES HARRIS, Realart executives, have returned to New York from Minneapolis and Chicago.

OSCAR GORELICK, owner of the Carmen Theatre in Dearborn is a candidate for Michigan State representative on the Republican ticket.

GEORGE SIDNEY, M-G-M director, and his wife arrived here yesterday from Hollywood.

EDWIN W. AARON, M-G-M assistant general sales manager, is due back in New York today from New Haven.

WILLIAM F. RODGERS, M-G-M distribution vice-president, left here yesterday for Hollywood.

BOB SOKOLER, Lasker-Schwartz executive, and SARA KATZ will announce their engagement here on Friday.

CHARLES COLLINS has been named manager of the Times Square Theatre in Detroit.

RKO to Distribute 1st McCarthy Film

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 31.—"Green Promise," first production of the newly formed Glenn McCarthy Productions, which went before the cameras last week, will be released by RKO under a one-picture deal negotiated with Howard Hughes, McCarthy has announced.

McCarthy, Texas oil millionaire, expects to produce two more this year, and three annually thereafter. Discussion concerning RKO release for all is expected to continue between McCarthy and Hughes.

Rialto Shutting for Day

To inaugurate the changeover to first run Film Classics product, the Rialto Theatre here will be closed tomorrow in preparation for the world premiere on Friday of "Sofia—City of Intrigue." Public officials and theatrical personalities are expected to attend the premiere.

Goldwyn Accepts Post

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 31.—Samuel Goldwyn has accepted the West Coast chairmanship of the Urban League for the second year, it was announced here.

CHARLES D. PRUTZMAN, Universal vice-president and general counsel, is due here Tuesday from the Coast.

HARRY ROSENBLATT, M-G-M branch manager in New Haven, and Mrs. ROSENBLATT have become grandparents with the birth of a son to their daughter-in-law in San Francisco.

RUTGERS NEILSON, RKO Radio publicity manager, is back at his desk here after a vacation at Atlantic City and Saratoga.

AL ADAMS, in charge of motion picture advertising in the New York office of J. Walter Thompson Co., has resigned, effective Sept. 15.

JIM PARTLOW, former Universal-International branch manager in Atlanta, has opened his new drive-in theatre in Orlando, Fla.

E. S. COATSWORTH has resigned as Toronto manager of the National Film Board of Canada to join Eagle-Lion of Canada in an exploitation capacity.

MARGARET MCCARTHY has become assistant manager of the Center Theatre, Hartford, succeeding MARGARET TILLEY, resigned.

FRED RAPHAEL, Walt Disney Productions music exploitation director, is here from the Coast.

L. E. WHITESPOON is planning to open a new theatre in Belle Grades, Fla., about Nov. 1.

JOHN J. O'CONNOR, Universal vice-president, is on vacation this week.

Allied of Michigan Convenes in Detroit

DETROIT, Aug. 31.—The important role the theatre plays in the community was the subject of an address by Ray Branch, president of Allied Theatres of Michigan, today on the second day of the organization's 29th annual convention which is being held at the Book Cadillac Hotel. Branch was introduced by Charles W. Snyder, executive secretary of Michigan Allied. Truman Rembusch, president of Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana, spoke on television operation.

The convention will close tomorrow.

To Continue with Films

WASHINGTON, Aug. 31.—The board of directors of the Alexandria Amusement Corp., which had been considering "several offers" to convert its Virginia Theatre in Alexandria into a legitimate theatre, has decided to continue to operate the Virginia as a film house.

Edith Mandel Services

CHICAGO, Aug. 31.—Funeral services for Edith Mandel, 82, mother of Irving Mandel, Monogram franchise holder in this territory, were held here yesterday.

Newsreel Parade

THE World Council of Churches meeting in Amsterdam and the departure of Lomakin mark newsreel highlights. The peacetime draft, return of Olympic stars and sports events round out the reels. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 70—World conference of churches held in Amsterdam. Nation mourns Justice Hughes. Communists march on Berlin city hall. The 25-year-olds register in peacetime draft. President Truman has vacation. John A. Costello, premier of Eire, in New York. Jacob Lomakin leaves New York. Winston Churchill visits France. Darryl Zanuck in Italy. Citation wins again. Ice spectacle in Atlantic City.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 200—First World Council of Churches. Marching Reds seize city hall. Lomakin sails for home. The 25-year-olds answer draft call. Olympic champs come home. Ice-Capades of 1949.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 3—Ice spectacle. World churchmen meet at Amsterdam. Draft call induction set for November. Soviet consul sails from New York. U. S. Olympic stars come home. Red hot football.

UNIVERSAL NEWS, No. 174—Draft begins. Lomakin packs up and leaves. Christians meet: 44 countries send leaders to Holland. Olympic team returns. Ice-Capades of 1949. American Derby.

WARNER PATHE NEWS, No. 5—Berlin city hall stormed by Reds. People in the news: Gen. Eichelberger; American youths register; Lomakin sails from New York. Olympic team returns. First World Council of Churches meet. Ice-Capades of 1949. Zoo hails baby elephant. Heat wave football. Citation wins again.

2 UA Films Rated 'B' As Legion Reviews 10

"An Innocent Affair" and "My Dear Secretary," both United Artists, have been classified in the "B" category by the National Legion of Decency in its rating of 10 pictures this week. Given A-I ratings were: UA's "The Girl from Manhattan," 20th-Century-Fox's "Night Wind," M-G-M's "The Secret Land" and Variety Film Distributors' "The Spirit and the Flesh" (Italian).

RKO Radio's "Bodyguard," 20th-Fox's "The Creeper," Warners' "Embraceable You" and Columbia's "The Loves of Carmen" were classified as A-II.

Joseph A. DiPesa

BOSTON, Aug. 31.—Joseph A. DiPesa, advertising-publicity director for Loew's Boston theatres, died here suddenly after a heart attack. Associated with the theatre business for 40 years, he was the dean of Boston press agents. Surviving are the widow, Louise, and a daughter, Betty, a local newspaper reporter.

Services will be held Thursday in St. Ignatius Chapel of Boston College. Interment will be at Evergreen Cemetery, Brighton.

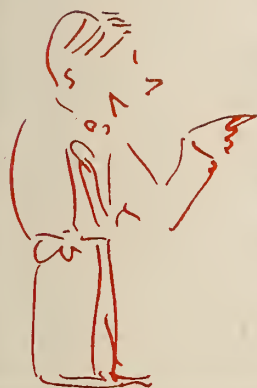
Mrs. Golda Finestone

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 31.—Al Finestone, Paramount studio publicist, flew to St. Joseph, Mo., today to attend the funeral of his mother, Mrs. Golda Donde Finestone, 82, who died in Brooklyn, N. Y., yesterday after a two-year illness.



"Everybody went to see 'DATE WITH JUDY' but him. It's a family picture for folks from 6 to 60 and he didn't quite make it."

"This 'DATE WITH JUDY' line has been at Radio City Music Hall for 3 weeks and *each week is a new M-G-M high!* 4th week going strong!"



← THIS WAY TO MUSIC HALL ENTRANCE A BLOCK AWAY! LINE CIRCLES BLOCK →



"It's got the joy of youth! That's why it's so popular from coast to coast."



M-G-M presents "A DATE WITH JUDY" starring WALLACE BEERY, JANE POWELL, ELIZABETH TAYLOR, CARMEN MIRANDA, XAVIER CUGAT and his Orchestra, ROBERT STACK • Color by TECHNICOLOR • Screen Play by Dorothy Cooper and Dorothy Kingsley • Based on the Characters Created by Aileen Leslie • Directed by RICHARD THORPE • Produced by JOE PASTERNAK

"DATE WITH JUDY" FAMILY PICTURE IS AMERICA'S NO. 1 HIT!



This is Ben "Nostradamus" Shlyen, who predicted the success of "A DATE WITH JUDY" in an editorial "The Family Touch" in Boxoffice Magazine.



M-G-M's joyous Technicolor hit proves that 140 million Americans want entertainment for Mom, Pop and all the Kids!

Gains for German Films Seen by U. S.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 31.—The German film industry is making "a slow but sure come-back from the low ebb reached at the end of the war," according to a report by Commerce Department film head Nathan D. Golden.

In the past 16 months, Golden says, 24 films have been produced,—three in the U.S. zone, nine in the British, and 12 in the Russian. Biggest obstacle to increased production is lack of studio space, with rawstock shortages another high hurdle.

U. S. and British officials differ over exchanging films with the Russians, according to the report, and as yet no films produced in the U. S. zone have been offered in the Russian zone. The British favor exchanging the films.

Report of Portuguese Film Quota Persists

WASHINGTON, Aug. 31. — Rumor persists that the Portuguese government plans to establish an import-distribution quota system, but no action has yet been taken, the Commerce Department reports.

Licenses for film imports have been required since February 9, the Department states, but as yet distributors have had no difficulty in getting licenses or dollar remittances.

Film Finance Concern Set Up in Hamburg

HAMBURG, Aug. 31.—A company which will provide financing for German production, distribution and exhibition has been founded here. It is the Deutsches Film Kontor, G.M.B.H., and describes itself as undertaking the export and import of films in addition.

Eliminate Dubbing

(Continued from page 1)

form by the Mexican delegation, but was toned down by the Spanish representatives. Spain has a very profitable local dubbing industry, Golden pointed out.

Other resolutions adopted by the Congress were of a general nature, Golden reported. Argentina, Mexico, Cuba and Spanish representatives attended the Congress.

Mexican Circuit To Open 6 in February

MEXICO CITY, Aug. 31. — Six theatres, each with a seating capacity of 3,500, are expected to be ready for opening next February, according to Manuel Espinosa Iglesias, president of Operadora de Teatros, S.A., while Marie Conesa, film comedienne, is selling several theatres she owns here to finance the building of a new house.

Beck in Two Deals

Irvin Shapiro, manager of Film Rights International, has retained Myer P. Beck to handle promotion on 10 films to be released in the coming season. An additional agreement has been reached by Beck and the Paris Theatre here for a promotion campaign on the new house which opens Sept. 12 with Film Rights' "Symphonie Pastorale."

Reviews

"The Luck of the Irish"

(20th Century-Fox)

THAT rich mine of humor, Irish folklore, is given another working in this modern-dress fantasy. The story is one of modest charm, wit and novelty; and its title is highly suggestive for exploitation angles. With Tyrone Power and Anne Baxter in the lead, and Cecil Kellaway providing a note of visual curiosity as a mischievous leprechaun, the film shapes up as reliable merchandise.

The locale of the comedy shifts from Ireland to New York and back again to the land of the shamrock. After a meandering start, the story builds up its dramatic force by focusing on the romantic dilemma faced by Power, a free-lance writer on foreign affairs. Should he marry a publisher's sophisticated daughter, Jayne Meadows, and thereby gain control of a publishing empire, or should he marry Miss Baxter, a pure-in-heart colleen he met in his travels in Ireland? Surely 'tis a problem that demands a Solomon's wisdom. But into the scene bounces Kellaway, the leprechaun Power encountered overseas. Now serving Power as a valet, Kellaway proceeds in his charmed way to set his master on the right road. En route there are some obstacles, but they provide the basis for a good deal of mirth and innocent mischief. Along with winning Miss Baxter, Power regains his editorial integrity, even though the pay isn't as good. Lee Cobb provides a gruff and effective caricature as the Senate-aspiring publisher, for whom the unregenerated Power writes campaign speeches.

The deft directorial hand of Henry Koster is apparent in many scenes. A novel touch is provided by having all sequences which take place in Ireland tinted green. Fred Kohlmar produced. Philip Dunne did the screenplay from a novel by Guy and Constance Jones.

Running time, 99 minutes. General audience classification. Set for September release.

MANDEL HERBSTMAN

"Code of Scotland Yard"

(Republic)

MADE in England, "Code of Scotland Yard" is a standard melodrama, highlighted by good acting by Oscar Homolka and Kenneth Griffith.

Produced and directed by George King, it concerns a loveable, old antique dealer (Homolka) who has a lucrative sideline in buying stolen jewels. When this is discovered by his clerk (Griffith) he is blackmailed. Taking most of the old man's money the blackmailer finally demands the antique dealer's daughter in marriage and for this request is murdered. From there Scotland Yard takes over the case and eventually solves it, but not until after Homolka has conveniently died of a heart attack, thus preventing the disgrace from falling upon his daughter.

Woven throughout the story is a thread of romance between Derek Farr, a Navy doctor, and Muriel Pavlow, as the musically talented daughter. The screenplay was written by Katherine Strueby.

Running time, 60 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, Aug. 30.

"Blanche Fury"

(Eagle-Lion)

IF this Technicolored period drama tries to make any point at all, it appears to be that fate often plays strange tricks on people. The film has some fine performances by Stewart Granger and Valerie Hobson as well as by Walter Fitzgerald, Michael Gough and Maurice Denham. Photography is outstanding and captures the magnificence of the English countryside.

"Blanche Fury" was produced by Anthony Havelock-Allan and directed by Marc Allegret. A Cineguild Production, it was made from a screenplay by Audrey Lindop and Cecil McGivern.

Fate, as conveniently twisted to suit the film's needs, looms large in this story of a man who loved the house he thought his own so much, he committed murder to get it. Miss Hobson as the woman Granger loves—she is married to one of the men he murders—undergoes a strange and not very well explained change of heart after the murder and gives him up to the police.

Inevitably, as the noose is put around Stewart's neck, the child for whom she has given him up, jumps to her death and Miss Hobson dies after giving birth to a son by Stewart. Some of the actions are effective and exciting, but on the whole there is little in this Rank production to greatly excite American audiences.

Running time, 93 minutes. Adult classification. Release date, Sept. 11.

"Murderers Among Us"

(Artkino)

THIS film has excellent prospects of taking its place among the best of German pictures. Tautly and intensely the production makes a strong case against the German "superman" knocked down to the status of a civilian and again enjoying freedom from the consequences of his crimes. The picture tells its story with the assistance of superlative acting and photography.

"Murderers Among Us" is a picture art theatres should not pass up, for it unfolds the whole drab hopelessness of the Germans of today; its types are true to life. Made in the Russian zone of Germany, "Murderers Among Us" is the only German film to play all four sectors of Berlin. It is rare in that it speaks out frankly on the question of war guilt and war atrocities, and it sensitively treats the horrible dilemma of the German anti-Nazi who fought in the Wehrmacht and whose conscience is awake to the realization that he too is guilty.

Hildegard Knef, Ernst Borchert and all others give top-notch performances. Direction and dialogue by Wolfgang Staudte is beyond reproach. A few of the scenes are too gaudy for U. S. consumption and should be cut.

Running time, 84 minutes. General audience classification.

Rank's Duals

(Continued from page 1)

and that the choice is either cooperation or warfare with the American industry. In the event he chooses the latter, Rank is likely to be hurt more than the American companies, Johnston observed.

It was disclosed that Rank was sufficiently impressed with Johnston's ultimatum to request the MPAA president to meet with him again as soon as Johnston returns to London from his European tour, which is scheduled to start tomorrow.

Despite the firmness of his stand, however, Johnston today made a plea for reasonableness in the present situation.

"We've scratched each other's faces enough," was the way he put it. "Now it's time we started scratching each other's backs."

Bookers for Rank's circuits had indicated earlier that they proposed to spot top American product on the lower half of double bills with British films playing the top half. Such an arrangement would help Rank meet the new 45 per cent quota and would restrict American earnings.

Johnston still hopes to obtain a visa to visit Russia during his tour of the Continent. He said, "If we can't solve Russian-American governmental troubles, maybe we can sell pictures there."

E-L Sets 17

(Continued from page 1)

"The World and Little Willie," starring Young and June Lockhart; Bryan Foy's "These Were My Orders," a sequel to "Mickey"; "Let's Live a Little," starring Hedy Lamarr; "Alice In Wonderland," produced in France with American players.

Also the following J. Arthur Rank productions: "Red Shoes," which will be roadshown; "1948 Olympic Games" and "Scott of the Antarctic," all three in Technicolor.

Youngstein said company executives will meet in New York next week to determine releasing arrangements for Rank's "Oliver Twist." It is understood that the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith has been preparing a report on the picture for examination by E-L executives.

Current boycotting of British films in New York by "The Sons of Liberty" was disparaged by Youngstein, who said E-L is determined to release its Rank pictures here as planned, notwithstanding.

UA Dutch Deal

(Continued from page 1)

pany's operations in Great Britain and Continental Europe for the past 10 days.

The agreement with Strenght, Kelly said, guarantees UA's independent producers an assured outlet for their product, with increased playing time in some of Holland's important first-run and circuit houses which are owned and operated by Strenght.

Release French Film

More than a year after its arrival here, the French film "Le Diable Au Corps" has now been approved by the New York State censor board and is being readied for release within the next two or three months. The Paul Graetz production was originally rejected by the board, whereupon it was sent back to France for revisions. A. F. E. Corp. will distribute it in the U. S.

Memphis House, Shut By Pickets, Re-opens

MEMPHIS, Aug. 31.—Closed since Aug. 16 because of union difficulties, the DeSoto Theatre here re-opened tonight, although the owners, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Lee Sawner, were warned that the house will be picketed. Source of the dispute is the insistence by IATSE Local No. 144 that the Sawners employ two union men—a chief operator and a helper, while the Sawners contend that they do not need and cannot afford to hire these employees. Sawner operates the projector and Mrs. Sawner sells tickets.

AFM-Independents

(Continued from page 1)

izations, will be included in the negotiations.

Anthony G. O'Rourke, SIMPP labor co-ordinator, will be chairman of the first session at which the AFM will be represented by Herman Keenan, J. W. Gillette and C. L. Bagley. Terms of the expiring contract will be observed during the negotiations with the understanding that any changes effected will be retroactive to the expiration.

Although it is generally felt that independents will follow the example set by the majors last week in virtually continuing the provisions of the old contract, it is understood the AFM will be asked to pare down its requirement for a permanent orchestra. The independents maintain that they lost heavily during the past year on this provision due to curtailed production.

DeMille Radio Job

(Continued from page 1)

refuses to reinstate him or makes it impossible for him to fulfill his pact with Mutual. A test of the Taft-Hartley law's protection of employers' right to hire also is indicated.

DeMille carried his fight with AFRA to the U. S. Supreme Court and lost. Last spring he testified before the House Labor Committee on behalf of the inclusion of strong right-to-work provisions in new labor legislation. He was expelled from AFRA in 1944 for refusal to pay the \$1 assessment for a fund to oppose a proposed amendment to the California constitution which would have declared the closed shop illegal.

Columbus, O., Has 55 Theatres Now Open

COLUMBUS, O., Aug. 31.—Recent opening of the 1,200-seat Old Trail of the Academy circuit has boosted to 55 the number of indoor theatres in this city. The houses have a combined capacity of 45,500 seats, or one seat for every nine persons in the metropolitan area, according to figures compiled by Justin Henley, financial editor of the Ohio State Journal. In addition, Columbus has six drive-ins with a total capacity of 3,000 cars.

Reviews

"Walk A Crooked Mile"

(Edward Small—Columbia)

THE title has its origin in a nursery rhyme ("There was a crooked man who walked a crooked mile . . .") but as here used refers specifically to the "work" of the agents of foreign governments seeking U. S. nuclear physics secrets. This being another Edward Small presentation having to do with the activities of U. S. Government investigators (we have in mind his previous "T-Men") comparisons are in order, and shape up thus: except that this time it's the F. B. I., rather than Treasury agents, whose energies are pitted against subversive forces, "Crooked Mile" is substantially like "T-Men." Like its predecessor it is threaded neatly with the oft-used quasi-documentary technique, and even has the same star, Dennis O'Keefe.

Incidentally, if the public's taste for "cops and robbers" fare of this order has remained unchanged since "T-Men" struck a box-office bonanza last year, "Crooked Mile" should have a splendid commercial future. Of course, the if is important. Exhibitors will have to rely on their individual experience.

George Bruce's screenplay, adapted from a story by Bertram Millhauser, puts F.B.I. man O'Keefe and Scotland Yard's Louis Hayward on the trail of a Communist spy ring which has succeeded in penetrating the information sources of a U.S. atomic energy plant. At the outset there is much talking and explaining for the audience's benefit, and the camera and narrator follow step by step the investigators' probings. The action is therefore slow up to the half-way point when suspense takes over en route to a tumultuous climax marked with displays of brutality on the part of the foreign agents. Gordon Douglas's direction is admirably muted throughout. Rounding out the cast are Louise Allbritton, Carl Esmond, Onslow Stevens, Raymond Burr, Art Baker, Lowell Gilmore and a host of others. Grant Whytock's production is polished and supports a goodly number of effective San Francisco location shots.

Running time, 91 minutes. General audience classification. For September release.

CHARLES L. FRANK

"Bodyguard"

(RKO Radio)

LAWRENCE TIERNEY has a pretty rough and tumble time of it trying to prove his innocence of a murder charge in "Bodyguard." The picture is a routine melodrama but has the virtue of action that keeps it constantly moving. Sharing the lead with Tierney is Priscilla Lane, with others in the cast including Philip Reed and June Clayworth.

Quitting the police force after a quarrel with his lieutenant, Tierney finds himself hired as a bodyguard to an elderly lady who heads a meat-packing plant. Shortly thereafter, Tierney gets mysteriously clouted on the head, and wakes up to find himself beside the body of the murdered lieutenant. Tierney is now confronted with the double task of eluding the police and finding the murderer. The task is marked by brawls, tough-talk, escapes and some more brawls. Eventually the old lady's nephew is found to be at the source of the skullduggery as well as some crooked meat deals. The screenplay by Fred Niblo, Jr., and Harry Essex, has Tierney make this discovery just in time to save his sweetheart, Miss Lane, from the fury of the killer who is running amok in the meat plant.

Sid Rogell produced; Richard O. Fleischer directed. The story was by George W. George and Robert B. Altman.

Running time, 62 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

M. H.

"The Creeper"

(20th Century-Fox)

AS A hair-raising chiller, "The Creeper" gets in some telling melodramatic strokes, with people clawed to death left and right.

It takes a weird story to produce the desired effects and this one provides it, along with a dash of romance. It is quite well acted and the photography has a dark quality that blends with the general atmosphere. It's certainly not a picture youngsters should see, but it makes a fine horror show for adults who like chillers.

A Reliance Picture, it was produced by Bernard Small. Ben Pivar was executive producer and Jean Yarbrough directed with a good hand for effect. Maurice Tombragel wrote the screenplay. Janis Wilson does a fine job as the girl scared by cats. Eduardo Ciannelli is his usual mysterious self. Onslow Stevens is in the romantic lead and Ralph Morgan and John Baragrey do well.

Miss Wilson has a hysterical fear of cats, brought on when she and her father went to the West Indies to collect serum. She regularly wakes up screaming at night because she sees cats clawing at her. Morgan is killed. So are others, including June Vincent and David Hoffman. Cats' claws figure in all of the deaths.

Stevens, a young doctor, has fallen love with Miss Wilson. She shoots him by mistake when he follows someone to her house. Then he shoots the intruder, a doctor who has injected himself with the serum. His hand turns into a cat's paw.

Running time, 64 minutes. Adult audience classification. Set for September release.

New Lindquist Post

CHICAGO, Aug. 31.—Malcolm-Howard Advertising Agency of this city has appointed Norman C. Lindquist, former vice-president of Television Advertising Productions, Inc., as its television director.

DuMont Gets License

WASHINGTON, Aug. 31.—The Federal Communications Commission today granted the Allen B. DuMont Laboratories, Inc., a license for a new experimental television relay broadcast station at Oxford, Conn.

ABC Midwest Video Net Starts Sept. 20

DETROIT, Aug. 31.—Another Midwest television network will be launched on Sept. 20 when American Broadcasting begins operation of a Chicago - Toledo - Cleveland - Buffalo hookup that will take in two other cities, probably St. Louis and Milwaukee. Final link in the network, according to Paul V. Mowrey, ABC national television director, will be the ABC outlet in Detroit, WXYZ-TV, which will begin sending test patterns on Sept. 15.

National Broadcasting announced last week that its Midwest television network will open on Sept. 20.

Ask Gov't. to Tell

(Continued from page 1)

their basic questions with some apparently all-inclusive phraseology: "State the facts including each separate incident, transaction, occurrence or event, together with the dates of same."

They ask the Government to produce evidence supporting charges of all forms of monopoly, including first-run, large city and local. They conclude by seeking the facts which plaintiff will offer to establish that the court decree as modified by the U. S. Supreme Court's mandate is inadequate to dissipate unlawful practices complained of.

Meanwhile, all five theatre-owning defendants in the case are at work on answers to the interrogatories with the aim of completing the task by Sept. 15, date now agreed upon.

Paramount Answers

(Continued from page 1)

these the plaintiff wanted to know if any theatre partners operated theatres outside the partnership; which theatres now operated by partnership formerly were operated by the partner alone; which theatres did the partner have which he did not turn into the partnership.

Building Idaho House

ASHTON, Idaho, Aug. 31.—George C. Harrigfeld and Sons is building a 500-seater here for opening in the fall.



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3 1/4 hours

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She owes her "ripe old age" to him . . .

HOWEVER skillfully she might play her part, this young actress would still seem more girl than grandmother—save for the creative ingenuity of the make-up man.

By deft application of grease paint and putty, he has added years to her appearance...and conviction to her role.

This is but one instance of the magic at the make-up man's command. He does as much and more for film folk

who must be transformed to Jekyll, Cyrano, gnome, or Manchu.

When these characterizations reach audiences successfully, it is because the make-up man combines cosmetic artistry with full knowledge of his medium. And, in knowing films, he is aware of what is done to help his work by the versatile members of the Eastman motion picture family, famous films for more than fifty years.

EASTMAN KODAK COMPANY

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FORT LEE • CHICAGO • HOLLYWOOD

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TEN CENTS

U.S. Plans New Injunction Plea Oct. 13

Will Ask Court to Bar Theatre Selling, Buying

WASHINGTON, Sept. 1.—Robert L. Wright, Government prosecutor in the industry anti-trust case, has disclosed he will press for a temporary writ restraining the defendants from acquiring or selling any theatres and for other temporary injunctions pending entry of a further order when the case comes before the New York Federal Court on Oct. 13.

Wright sought such immediate relief at a hearing here on June 15, but the New York Court rejected the request on the ground that it lacked jurisdiction pending the appointment of a third judge. Judge Alfred C. Cox has since been designated to succeed the late John Bright.

Wright will seek injunctions restraining the film companies from making franchise deals with theatres

(Continued on page 3)

Wash. Ascap Ruling May Be Academic

If the New York Federal court decision holding Ascap to be in violation of the anti-trust laws is upheld on appeal, a recent opinion by State of Washington Attorney General Smith Troy, that Society material filed with the state secretary last April "is a reasonable compliance" with a 1947 state law which calls for filing with the secretary a list of copyrighted works plus supporting data for each title, may become an academic ruling.

Under the state attorney-general's opinion Ascap has, in effect, won the

(Continued on page 3)

Wright Passes on All Crescent Deals

NASHVILLE, Sept. 1.—That all petitions to the U. S. District Court here for construction or acquisitions of new theatres by Crescent Amusement Co. are being cleared through Robert L. Wright, special assistant to the U. S. Attorney General, is revealed in the court's recent action in permitting Crescent to abandon the Ritz Theatre in Lebanon and erect a new house in its stead and to acquire the Old Hickory Theatre in Old Hickory.

In addition to Crescent's petition to build new theatres, some of them re-

(Continued on page 3)

Rank Studio Goes to BBC

LONDON, Sept. 1.—Bearing significant witness to the rigorously exercised economy program in production ordered by J. Arthur Rank is the disclosure today that his Highbury studio, now closed, has been leased to British Broadcasting Co. for television productions.

The Highbury studio hitherto had been used by Rank for production of B pictures.

It is widely reported, but unconfirmed, that Rank now contemplates production of 55 features in 1949 instead of the 60 promised earlier, this despite the new 45 per cent quota law's encouragement of increased production here.

DeMille's AFRA Fee Will Remain Unpaid

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 1.—A condition of the agreement by which Cecil B. DeMille will produce and narrate a radio program for the Mutual Broadcasting System next winter is that the \$1 assessment which he has refused to pay to the American Federation of Radio Artists will not be paid by DeMille or by anyone else on his behalf, it is learned.

If AFRA refuses reinstatement of DeMille or otherwise makes it impossible for him to fulfill the terms of his MBS employment agreement, it is regarded as certain that DeMille will use the case as additional evidence in his continuing efforts to obtain strong right-to-work legislation.

DeMille refused to pay the AFRA

(Continued on page 3)

Wonderful Weather, And Grosses Ditto

The return of cool, clear weather to the Eastern seaboard revived grosses that had withered with the excessive heat of last Thursday through Sunday, reports from key Eastern cities yesterday disclosed.

Broadway houses all reported business up with yesterday's ideal weather. Business was at capacity in leading Main Stem houses throughout the day and continued strong into last night. Some managers reported the last two days' business had about made up for weekend losses due to the heat.

Ask Bar on 20th's Deal in Balto. Suit

WASHINGTON, Sept. 1.—The Walbrook Theatre of Baltimore has asked Federal District court here for a preliminary injunction against 20th Century-Fox to keep it from giving the Windsor, also of Baltimore, half of its films, as provided by an out-of-court settlement reached some weeks ago with 20th-Fox in the Windsor's anti-trust suit against six major distributors.

The Windsor filed a \$600,000 suit against 20th-Fox, M-G-M, Paramount, United Artists, Universal and Warners. Also named in the suit, which was filed last Feb. 15, were the Walbrook; Thomas D. Goldberg, owner of the house, and the Hilton Theatre, also owned by Goldberg. The suit charged

(Continued on page 3)

UK Exhibitors Favor MPAA Booking Plan

Korda, However, Is Acid; Calls It 'Very Silly'

LONDON, Sept. 1.—Britain's independent exhibitors today expressed approval of the all-American program booking policy announced yesterday by Eric Johnston, Motion Picture Association of America president, but Sir Alexander Korda sounded a lone discordant reaction.

The independent exhibitors, concurring with Johnston's plan of booking a complete American double feature program or nothing, regard it as a shrewd stroke in the American companies' battle with J. Arthur Rank. The latter's circuits had indicated their intention of booking top American product on the lower half of double bills, with weaker British films in the first position, thus contributing to Rank's ability to meet the new 45 per cent quota and, at the same time,

(Continued on page 3)

Disney Now Favors French Film Pact

Assistance of the U. S. State Department in film trade matters abroad was characterized as indispensable yesterday by William Levy, Eastern representative for Disney Productions, which recently withdrew its protest to the State Dept. over the new French film agreement.

Levy cited the new French-U.S. film accord as an example of favorable results of Government intervention in deals with foreign countries. While the new French pact does not mean maximum gains for the U. S. com-

(Continued on page 3)

Film Carriers Not in N. Y. Truck Strike

The strike launched here yesterday by Local 807 of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters (AFL) will leave film deliveries unaffected, since film carrier drivers and helpers in New York are not members of that local. However, it was expected that other teamster locals here would follow either today or tomorrow the example of Local 807, and therefore there remained last night some possibility of film carriers becoming involved, even if only on the level of registering sympathy with the strikers in the form of a temporary cessation of work.

"The Saxon Charm"

[Universal-International] — Slickly Commercial

IN bringing to the screen Frederic ("The Hucksters") Wakeman's second novel about the exploits of a monstrous heel, producer Joseph Sistrom and director-scripter Claude Binyon have turned out a beautifully lacquered production which is well worth shouting about and well worth merchandising efforts of the highest order. "The Saxon Charm" should pay off at the box-office in direct proportion to the quantity and quality of showmanship treatment it is accorded. Too, it is a "natural" from a word-of-mouth standpoint.

Also qualifying for a substantial share of credit for a singularly fine entertainment are the cameramen, decorators, editors and all the other behind-the-scenes technicians, as well, of course, as a superb cast headed by Robert Montgomery, Susan Hayward, John Payne and Audrey Totter.

New York stage producer Matt Saxon is a thoroughly detestable character. Montgomery's handling of the role is no less than magnificent, and lends to the characterization a case-history quality that is utterly absorbing. Saxon is an intellectual snob of the first order, vitriolic of tongue and temperament, an anti-social who engages in lofty mouthings

(Continued on page 8)

Personal Mention

HENRY GINSBERG, Paramount studio head, is due here Tuesday by plane from Hollywood.

FRED L. LYNCH, advertising-publicity director for Radio City Music Hall, returned to his desk here yesterday from a vacation at East Hampton, L. I.

AMERICO ABOAF, Universal-International's Latin American supervisor, is scheduled to leave New York Sunday en route to Mexico and Central and South America.

PAUL N. LAZARUS, JR., executive assistant to the president of United Artists, left New York yesterday for Chicago and Milwaukee.

OSCAR MORGAN, Paramount short subjects sales manager, is recuperating at Mt. Sinai Hospital here after a minor operation.

W. E. CALLAWAY, United Artists Los Angeles district manager, returned to his headquarters from New York yesterday.

BERT SANFORD, Altec Lansing theatrical sales manager, has returned to New York from a trip through the Midwest.

VERNE CALDWELL, Disney studio executive, will return to the Coast over the weekend from New York.

HARRY HELLMAN, Upstate exhibitor, is at Albany, N. Y., Hospital following an operation Tuesday.

GEORGE BURGESS has been named manager of the Imperial Theatre, Detroit, succeeding **GERALD HUNT**.

Meyer Post at U. A. Circuit Unfilled

Duties of Stanley Meyer, who resigned as vice-president in charge of theatre operations of the United Artists Circuit Corp. here have been divided among several of the company's executives, and it is indicated that Meyer's former post will not be filled. Meyer has returned to the West Coast.

'Red Ryder' Conferences

Stephen Slesinger, New York publisher and owner of the comic strip character "Red Ryder," is due in Hollywood today from New York for conferences with Harry Thomas, president of Equity Pictures, on selection of the actor to play the title role in the forthcoming "Red Ryder" series to be produced by Equity for Eagle-Lion release.

Loew's Sets Dividend

Directors of Loew's, Inc., yesterday declared a regular quarterly dividend of 37½ cents per share on common stock, payable Sept. 30 to stockholders of record Sept. 10.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

TAKE it as reliable that Eric Johnston went to London with full authority, and also instruction, to tell J. Arthur Rank a few things. Here are some of the points he was commissioned to make and which he has done:

1.—The American industry holds Rank to be the chief architect of the 45 per cent quota plan, this in face of his publicly uttered opposition to quotas in all forms.

2.—The American industry does not view with enthusiasm any plan whereby its top product would trail British product on any given show in any given Rank theatre. In London on Tuesday, this view became a policy.

3.—The American industry maintains that, while Rank talks about hands-across-the-sea in friendly, if competitive, clasp, his announced policies don't match his lofty phrasings.

4.—The American industry is angry at unwarranted and far-flung attacks appearing as if by pattern in the British press and thinks Rank was in a position to reduce or eliminate much of this had he so desired.

The point of explosion, however, arrived when Johnston told Rank the leaders here regard this combination of factors as an undeclared declaration of war; that, if Rank wants to fight, the American industry will oblige—not only in Britain, but wherever Rank operates around the world unless the present state of affairs is relieved.

Open warfare, if it develops, may be expected to take the form of a refusal to sell Rank American product beyond whatever contractual agreements are in existence at the time. This would place Rank in the position of depending entirely on his own films plus whatever else of value he can piece together from other than American sources. It also would feed his opposition houses in England and elsewhere American product of sufficient strength to develop new first runs. In this country, the major circuits on whom Rank must depend preponderantly for the success of his program would lock the door and toss away the key.

It's up to Rank to decide into what maelstrom he proposes tossing himself: The resolve of the American industry to battle

its way to a conclusion or nationalistic pride and/or stubbornness and, perhaps governmental, wrath at home.

On the diplomatic side, of course, Johnston has been telling Rank the situation is unfortunate, that warfare would be harmful to both industries and more so to the British and that some middle ground is much to be desired. As a visitor, even with a mission, he could do no less.

But here in New York where the guards are down, not up, one would be hard put to find a friendly word for Rank or the British. General opinion solidly maintains the American industry has been taken for a beautiful ride.

Joe Skeptic, that hard-bitten philosopher, was contemplating the embroilment yesterday with his usual jaundiced eye. Someone asked, "If Eric Johnston declares war on Arthur Rank, what happens to all those air crews we're basing in England? Will they be imprisoned, or what?"

To which, Joe replied: "Nope. The British will make 'em look at British films. That would be a fate worse than death in the air."

The upper crust at UA is having a fine old time checking off early "Red River" takes on those 235 day-and-date runs in Texas, Oklahoma and New Mexico. They're so good, the figures are being re-checked for error. For instance and no wonder: Tyler, Tex., four days, \$3,410; Port Arthur, two days, \$2,300. Odessa [Texas, not Russia], opening day, \$1,358; San Antonio, five days, \$18,100; El Paso, six days, \$10,500; Wichita Falls, five days, \$5,000; holdovers in all Intersate Circuit situations except two.

A picture largely about Texas, "Red River" tackled the soft under-belly of exhibition first by invading the Southwest. UA concedes this, but contends an \$8,000,000 domestic gross is in line if the initial pace is maintained.

They'd settle for several millions less.

Dembow Drive Chiefs Set Regional Meets

Regional meetings of all sales personnel will be held next week by captains of the "George Dembow Tribute," National Screen Service sales drive honoring Dembow, vice-president in charge of sales. William Bein, Eastern drive captain, and Ben Ashe, Western drive captain, will make a flying tour of the regional meetings.

Meetings will be held by Bein at Chicago, Sept. 7; Pittsburgh, Sept. 8; Kansas City, Sept. 11; and Dallas, Sept. 13. Ashe will hold meetings in Los Angeles, Sept. 7; Denver, Sept. 9; Kansas City, Sept. 11, and Dallas, Sept. 13.

E-L Expands Scope Of Donaldson Post

Two Eagle-Lion branches, Buffalo and Albany, have been added to those now handled by Tom Donaldson, E-L New England district manager, in a move explained by E-L distribution vice-president William J. Heineman as being "in accordance with the company's policy of promoting its personnel whenever possible." In his new post, which is effective immediately, Donaldson will continue to supervise the Boston and New Haven exchanges from his headquarters in Boston.

Youth Month Parade Set for Sept. 7 Here

A youth parade of 5,000 New York children will be staged next Tuesday morning under the joint auspices of the National Youth Month Committee and the New York Youth Board. The parade will form at 8:30 at Cooper Union Park and will proceed to the Skouras Academy of Music at West 14th Street to see a premiere of "A Friendly Story," a short subject with a youth theme.

A stage show also will be held in which figures of stage and screen will participate.

To Co-produce in Paris

Conclusion of a deal with the Compagnie Continentale Cinematographique of France for joint production in Paris of "Miss Condon" from the novel by Aline Bernstein in both French and English with a combined budget of 105,000,000 francs has been announced here by Peter Cusick, president of Cusick International Films.

\$2,250,000 RKO Suit

Writer Joseph Anthony filed in U.S. District Court here yesterday a \$2,250,000 damage action against RKO Radio and Radio - Keith - Orpheum Corp., charging that his film story, "Sister Eve" was pirated and appropriated by RKO Radio in producing "The Bachelor and the Bobby Soxer."

Goldwyn-Arc Deal Off

Negotiation of a deal by which Goldwyn Productions would have become producer's representative in the selling of Walter Wanger's "Joan of Arc" has been cancelled and the deal is completely off, it was disclosed here yesterday.

Soviet Power Cuts Hit Berlin Houses

Theatres in the American and British sectors of Berlin, most of which depend on electric power generated in the Soviet sector, have had to cut down the number of shows to one and two a day, according to a report received by the Motion Picture Export Association here from Marian F. Jordan, MPEA general manager in Germany.

Since the early days of the blockade, the Russians, Jordan observes, have been piping over only about half of the current actually needed to keep all film wheels rolling on a normal basis. As a result of the acute power shortage, Jordan says that 34 of the 70 theatres in the American sector are running a single performance a day, 35 are on a two-a-day basis, and only one theatre is playing three-a-day. The British sector's 41 houses have been almost as severely hit, with 19 playing one-a-day, 17, two-a-day, four running three shows and one house meeting its pre-blockade schedule of four shows a day.

U. S. Films Blacking Out in Yugoslavia

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia, Aug. 24 (By Airmail).—In 1947 Yugoslavia imported 137 Soviet features and documentaries, representing about 47 per cent of the total number brought into the country. Only 38 were imported from the U. S. These figures compare with 45 from the Soviet and 102, or 45 per cent of the total, from the U. S. in 1945. In the first half of this year only seven American features entered the country as against 188 from Russia.

Disney Favors

(Continued from page 1)

panies, Levy indicated it is as good as could be hoped for at the present.

Levy reported that Roy Disney's protest to the State Department concerning the French pact took exception only to the allocation of films under the new quota. The major companies are permitted to send 110 pictures into France per annum as against only 11 for the independents.

Disney's protest called attention to the position of the independents, and in so doing had served its purpose, Levy said, and has been withdrawn.

It is understood that David O. Selznick also expressed dissatisfaction with the new French pact.

Withdrawal of the Disney protest is expected to speed finalization of the agreement which frees over \$9,000,000 from France over a four-year period. That Disney would get any special concessions from the major companies because of the protest withdrawal was denied by Levy.

Crescent Deals

(Continued from page 1)

placements, in eight Tennessee, Alabama and Kentucky towns, which is still to be reviewed by Wright, the Government attorney also is studying a bid by Rockwood Amusement Co. of Rockwood for permission to build a new house in that town. Kermit Stengel, general manager of Rockwood Amusement and Crescent executive vice-president, was one of the defendants in the Crescent anti-trust suits.

Review

"Station West"

(RKO Radio)

THIS RKO Radio production stands at the top of its class. As a high, though not colossal, budget Western it is another proof—if one be needed—that well-made stories of the West result in excellent motion picture entertainment.

For the most part this is Dick Powell's picture and he does well indeed in a straight dramatic role. Robert Sparks, the producer, surrounded Powell with a fine cast, led by Jane Greer. The direction by Sidney Lanfield made for a natural film, avoiding both the extremes of artificiality and exaggerated realism. On analysis, the story, from the novel by Luke Short with the screen play by Frank Fenton and Winston Miller, is not strikingly different from many other Westerns. However, the presentation is fresh and there is plenty of suspense and excitement to please audiences without exhausting them.

Powell turns up in a small Western town after two soldiers had been murdered transporting gold. For a while it is not clear what his connection with the matter is; then the audience learns that he is an Army intelligence officer sent, under cover, to investigate. At the end he has the desired information and all the culprits are dead. Meanwhile he has several meetings with the beautiful but sinister head of a gambling house and gang ring-leader, Jane Greer; a fierce fist fight with Guinn "Big Boy" Williams; several gun battles; and assorted complications with the captain in charge of the local army station, Tom Powers, and his lady friend, Agnes Moorehead. Other supporting roles include a singing hotel clerk, effectively played by Burl Ives, and Gordon Oliver and Steve Brodie, associates in the crimes, and Raymond Burr, a weak lawyer. The photography, both of the beautiful exterior country and the realistic interiors, is very good. Most of the action takes place in a relatively small number of settings and this contributes to the over-all effectiveness of this film.

Running time, 92 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Oct. 23.

M. Q. Jr.

Cleveland Lake to Community Circuit

CLEVELAND, Sept. 1.—Community Circuit Theatres has acquired the lease for the Lake Theatre here. Extensive remodeling is planned, following which the house's name may be changed, according to Henry Greenberger, president of the circuit.

For the past 18 years the Lake was operated by Warner Brothers whose lease expired recently and was not renewed. The Lake is the sixth downtown house operated by the circuit.

Balto. Suit Deal

(Continued from page 1)

a conspiracy to deprive the Windsor of neighborhood run films, with the plaintiff claiming it obtained product anywhere from 14 days to six months behind the competitive Walbrook.

While negotiations are understood to be under way with the other distributor-defendants for a settlement similar to that reached with 20th-Fox, the Walbrook, in seeking its injunction, claims that a contract made in July, 1945, with 20th-Fox promised the Walbrook the same films as the Durkee-owned Ambassador. Argument on the request for an injunction is expected within 10 days.

U. S. in New Plea

(Continued from page 1)

affiliated with any of the defendants and from discriminating against theatres in competition with any of the affiliated houses.

Wright said he contemplates no Government request for postponement of the Oct. 13 hearing, nor has he heard of any to be made by the industry.

Seek Sunday Films Vote

CAMBRIDGE, O., Sept. 1. — Signatures are being solicited here to put the issue of Sunday shows on the ballot in the November election. Similar efforts in the past have been voted down.

Wash. Ascap Ruling

(Continued from page 1)

right to collect fees for public performances of its members' musical compositions in the state. Several years ago Ascap was similarly sustained in Florida, the only other state having such copyright regulation.

Troy's opinion followed a state supreme court ruling of last January that Ascap had not complied with the law, and holding that the Ascap list filed contained musical compositions in the public domain.

In July Judge Vincent L. Leibell ruled in U. S. District Court here that Ascap had violated the anti-trust laws by taxing theatres playing pictures containing Ascap music and granted injunctive relief to 164 independent New York exhibitors in their suit against Ascap. Ascap is expected to appeal Leibell's decision.

DeMille's AFRA Fee

(Continued from page 1)

assessment when it was levied in 1944 to finance a campaign against California legislation to outlaw the closed shop in that state. He was suspended from AFRA and has been unable to appear on the air since. He carried his case to the U. S. Supreme Court and lost, and is now pressing for new Federal labor legislation guaranteeing the right to work.

Eases Sunday Ban

TORONTO, Sept. 1. — Exhibitors in many Canadian cities other than Toronto will be permitted to run Sunday midnight shows on Oct. 10, running into Canada's Thanksgiving Day, scheduled to be held on Monday, Oct. 11.

Murphy Sails for U.K.

James Murphy sailed on the SS *Queen Mary* for England yesterday where he will start his duties as assistant to Fayette Allport, representative in London of the Motion Picture Association of America.

U. K. Exhibitors

(Continued from page 1)

restricting the earnings of the American companies here.

Johnston's meeting with W. R. Fuller, general secretary of the Cinematograph Exhibitors Ass'n, and with other exhibitor leaders here assured the independents of being able to obtain proper alternate programs at fair rentals.

The independents, though concerned only with running their theatres profitably, welcome the opportunity to settle, once and for all, the question of which pays better, American or British pictures?

Korda called the Johnston plan "very silly."

'Americans Fight Customers'

"Americans are fighting their best customers," he said, "but I don't think the new proposal matters one little bit. British pictures don't need the support of American films in the British market. Johnston is under the mistaken impression that British people don't like British films. It's absolutely wonderful how ill informed people can be about the tastes of people of another country."

Rank is on vacation and his office withheld comment on Johnston's plan.

Johnston has made definite arrangements to meet Rank again when the MPAA president returns here from the Continent toward the end of September. Johnston left here today for Paris.

'U,' E-L Committed to Rank

Universal and Eagle-Lion are prevented by their contractual commitments with Rank from participating in the Johnston all-American program booking plan and United Artists cannot commit its independent producers without their approval. The plan is scheduled to be placed in operation Oct. 1, when Britain's new quota law becomes effective but, because of contracts already made, its full effect is not likely to be felt in Britain until the first of next year.

Some Independents Wary Of Johnston Booking Plan

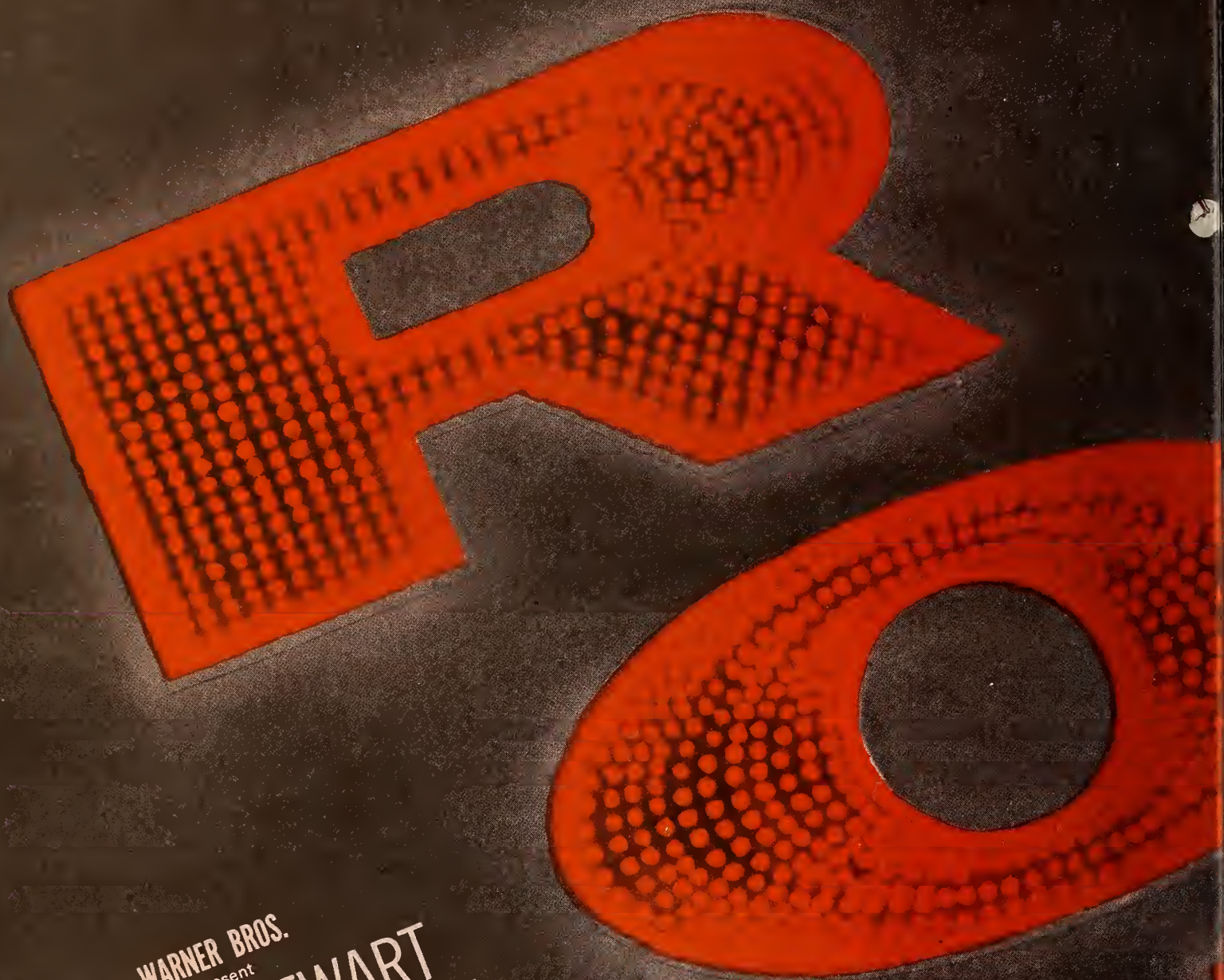
One producer's representative said in New York yesterday that he would refuse to sell his top product to support British pictures on any theatre program. He added, however, that he was not inclined to believe that refusal to license his films as first features in England, supported by British product, would be advantageous.

The producer's representative said that top U. S. features in England draw in the neighborhood of \$500,000, while second features take from \$100,000 to \$150,000. He expressed fear that some independent product might be forced into secondary spots on programs if the independents become a party to the new MPAA policy.

Canadian Imports Up in First Half

OTTAWA, Sept. 1.—The External Trade Branch of the Canadian government here reveals in its latest report that, while imports of films slumped in June to \$251,000 as compared with \$266,000 in the same month last year, they increased to \$1,664,000 in the first six months of 1948, as against \$1,409,000 in the corresponding period of 1947.

NOTHING EVER HELD NEW YORK



WARNER BROS.
present

JAMES STEWART
in
ALFRED HITCHCOCK'S
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IN COLOR BY
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JOHN DALL • FARLEY GRANGER
SIR CEDRIC HARDWICKE • CONSTANCE COLLIER
and JOAN CHANDLER

Screen Play by ARTHUR LAURENTS • From the Play by Patrick
Hamilton • Director of Photography, Joseph Valentine, A.S.C.

A TRANSATLANTIC PICTURE



Lights Up! The N.Y. Globe,
first theatre to show it,
is playing to the greatest
attendance ever seen
here at any time! This
record in the face of
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"THE PICTURE
ALL AMERICA
WANTS TO SEE"



ROY DEL RUTH'S
**THE
BABE RUTH
STORY**

Starring

WILLIAM CLAIRE CHARLES
BENDIX · TREVOR · BICKFORD

AN ALLIED ARTISTS PRODUCTION

with SAM LEVENE · WILLIAM FRAWLEY · GERTRUDE NIESEN · MATT BRIGGS · Produced and Directed by ROY DEL RUTH · Associate Producer JOE KAUFMAN · Screenplay by BOB CONSIDINE and GEORGE CALLAHAN

"The Babe Ruth Story" is now in its
6th WEEK at the Astor Theatre, N.Y...

In Boston it has played 3 WEEKS to
giant grosses at Keith's Memorial...

For 4 WEEKS in Baltimore it has
smashed records at the Town Theatre...

In Philadelphia it has drawn great
crowds to the Mastbaum for 3 WEEKS...

In Cheyenne, Waterbury, Asbury Park,
Hartford, Jamestown, Lancaster...in
cities and towns of every size, this
warm-hearted picture of a beloved
American is drawing record throngs.

Today, the industry's big boxoffice
story is **THE BABE RUTH STORY.**

Key City

Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY correspondents. Estimates omit admission tax.

LOS ANGELES

"Pitfall," "Two Guys from Texas" and "Beyond Glory" led grosses to high ground in a fine final week of August weather, warmish days and coolish nights, which seemed to make everybody picture-minded. Estimated receipts for the week ended Sept. 1:

BEYOND GLORY (Para.) and EYES OF TEXAS (Rep.)—PARAMOUNT (Downtown) (3,595) (50c-60c-85c-1.00) 7 days. Gross: \$21,000. (Average: \$16,450)

BEYOND GLORY (Para.)—PARAMOUNT (Hollywood) (1,407) (50c-60c-85c-1.00) 7 days. Gross: \$10,500. (Average: \$13,000)

EASTER PARADE (M-G-M)—EGYPTIAN (1,000) (50c-60c-85c-1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: \$11,000. (Average: \$11,900)

EASTER PARADE (M-G-M)—FOX-WILSHIRE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: \$11,000. (Average: \$12,850)

EASTER PARADE (M-G-M)—LOS ANGELES (2,096) (50c-60c-85c-1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: \$15,000. (Average: \$18,100)

MICKEY (E-L) and HANGMAN'S NOOSE (E-L)—BELMONT (1,600) (50c-60c-85c-1.00) 6 days. Gross: \$5,000. (Average: \$5,750)

MICKEY (E-L) and HANGMAN'S NOOSE (E-L)—EL REY (861) (50c-60c-85c-1.00) 6 days. Gross: \$5,000. (Average: \$5,000)

MICKEY (E-L) and HANGMAN'S NOOSE (E-L)—ORPHEUM (2,210) (50c-60c-85c-1.00) 6 days. Gross: \$12,000. (Average: \$14,650)

MICKEY (E-L) and HANGMAN'S NOOSE (E-L)—VOGUE (800) (50c-60c-85c-1.00) 6 days. Gross: \$5,000. (Average: \$6,500)

MR. PEABODY AND THE MERMAID (U-I) and DAREDEVILS OF THE CLOUDS (Rep.)—GUILD (965) (50c-60c-85c-1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: \$5,000. (Average: \$5,450)

MR. PEABODY AND THE MERMAID (U-I) and DAREDEVILS OF THE CLOUDS (Rep.)—IRIS (708) (50c-60c-85c-1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: \$5,000. (Average: \$6,100)

MR. PEABODY AND THE MERMAID (U-I) and DAREDEVILS OF THE CLOUDS (Rep.)—RITZ (1,376) (50c-60c-85c-1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: \$8,000. (Average: \$9,050)

MR. PEABODY AND THE MERMAID (U-I) and DAREDEVILS OF THE CLOUDS (Rep.)—STUDIO (880) (50c-60c-85c-1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: \$5,500. (Average: \$6,300)

MR. PEABODY AND THE MERMAID (U-I) and DAREDEVILS OF THE CLOUDS (Rep.)—UNITED ARTISTS (2,100) (50c-60c-85c-1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: \$7,500. (Average: \$9,580)

THE PEARL (RKO Radio)—FOUR STAR (900) (50c-60c-85c-1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: \$7,500. (Average: \$7,450)

THE PEARL (RKO Radio)—PALACE (1,237) (50c-60c-85c-1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: \$11,000. (Average: \$15,000)

PITFALL (UA-Regal)—MUSIC HALL (Beverly Hills) (900) (50c-60c-85c-1.00) 7 days. Gross: \$8,000. (Average: \$3,150)

PITFALL (UA-Regal)—MUSIC HALL (Downtown) (900) (50c-60c-85c-1.00) 7 days. Gross: \$17,000. (Average: \$7,550)

PITFALL (UA-Regal)—MUSIC HALL (Hawaii) (1,000) (50c-60c-85c-1.00) 7 days. Gross: \$8,000. (Average: \$3,400)

PITFALL (UA-Regal)—MUSIC HALL (Hollywood) (490) (50c-60c-85c-1.00) 7 days. Gross: \$7,000. (Average: \$3,100)

RETURN OF THE BAD MEN (RKO Radio) and I SURRENDER DEAR (Col.)—HILLSTREET (2,700) (50c-60c-85c-1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: \$13,000. (Average: \$18,950)

RETURN OF THE BAD MEN (RKO Radio) and I SURRENDER DEAR (Col.)—PANTAGES (2,000) (50c-60c-85c-1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: \$9,000. (Average: \$17,150)

THAT LADY IN ERMINE (20th-Fox) and KING OF THE GAMBLERS (Rep.)—CARTHAY CIRCLE (1,516) (50c-60c-85c-1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: \$6,000. (Average: \$9,500)

THAT LADY IN ERMINE (20th-Fox) and KING OF THE GAMBLERS (Rep.)—CHINESE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: \$10,000. (Average: \$13,000)

THAT LADY IN ERMINE (20th-Fox) and KING OF THE GAMBLERS (Rep.)—LOEW'S STATE (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-1.00)

"The Saxon Charm"

(Continued from page 1)

about collectivist advantages, a bitter financial failure whose incompetence as a producer spells financial headaches for unwary entrepreneurs. Payne, a successful novelist who had taken a crack at writing a play, is taken in by Saxon's ostensible worth and prestige, and almost too late finds that this ruthless parasite has ruined his script, and has nearly irreparably wrecked his married happiness to boot. Miss Hayward, Payne's wife, becomes wise to Saxon's "charm" at the outset, having been tipped off on the producer's character by Miss Totter, a night club singer, who loves him deeply nonetheless.

ITS serious overtones notwithstanding, this picture is a rollicking sophisticated comedy in its unfolding, with sophisticated funnybones due to receive almost uninterrupted titillation in consequence of Saxon's utter unpredictability, his contemptuous wit, and his capacity for ignoring the implications of financial adversity and ultimate desertion by all whom he double-crossed. This calls to mind a word of caution for exhibitors whose patrons have heretofore shied away from "sophisticated comedies"—we refer particularly to theatre operators in strictly rural communities. "The Saxon Charm" is first and foremost fare of a type that is certain to thoroughly please the more sophisticated metropolitan audiences. Very much to the picture's credit, of course, is the fact that the sexiness embodied in the novel was by-passed completely in the transformation.

Suffice it to say that performances are crackerjack from top to bottom in a cast that is rounded out with Henry Morgan (not the radio comedian), Harry Von Zell, Cara Williams, Chill Wills and Heather Angel. Miss Totter at two points serves up mellow vocal renditions of the oldie, "I'm in the Mood for Love."

Running time, 88 minutes. Adult audience classification. For September release.

CHARLES L. FRANKE

7 days, 2nd week. Gross: \$13,000. (Average: \$19,800)

THAT LADY IN ERMINE (20th-Fox) and KING OF THE GAMBLERS (Rep.)—LOYOLA (1,265) (50c-60c-85c-1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: \$7,500. (Average: \$10,000)

THAT LADY IN ERMINE (20th-Fox) and KING OF THE GAMBLERS (Rep.)—UPTOWN (1,716) (50c-60c-85c-1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: \$6,500. (Average: \$10,000)

TWO GUYS FROM TEXAS (WB) and EMBRACEABLE YOU (WB)—WARNERS (Downtown) (3,400) (50c-60c-85c-1.00) 6 days. Gross: \$23,000. (Average: \$13,730)

TWO GUYS FROM TEXAS (WB) and EMBRACEABLE YOU (WB)—WARNERS (Hollywood) (3,000) (50c-60c-85c-1.00) 6 days. Gross: \$20,000. (Average: \$11,650)

TWO GUYS FROM TEXAS (WB) and EMBRACEABLE YOU (WB)—WARNERS (Wiltorn) (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-1.00) 6 days. Gross: \$18,000. (Average: \$11,220)

CHICAGO

Continued heat wave has put a dent in Loop attendance, with the beaches attracting most of the weekend trade. Estimated receipts for week ending Sept. 2:

BLOOD AND SAND (20th-Fox)—GAR-RICK (1,000) (50c-65c-85c). Gross: \$8,500. (Average: \$10,000)

DREAM GIRL (Para.)—CHICAGO (3,900) (50c-65c-98c) Stage: Disc Jockeys. Gross: \$52,000. (Average: \$53,500)

EASTER PARADE (M-G-M)—WOODS (1,080) (98c) 3rd week. Gross: \$23,000. (Average: \$23,000)

HOLLOW TRIUMPH (E-L)—UNITED ARTISTS (1,700) (50c-65c-98c). Gross: \$14,000. (Average: \$70,000)

MAN-EATER OF KUMAON (U-I)—GRAND (1,150) (50c-65c-98c) 5 days, 2nd week. Gross: \$12,000. (Average: \$11,500)

THE RETURN OF THE BAD MEN (RKO Radio) 2 days. Gross: \$12,000. (Average: \$12,000)

RAW DEAL (E-L)—APOLLO (1,200) (50c-65c-98c) 2nd week. Gross: \$9,000. (Average: \$12,000)

TAP ROOTS (U-I)—PALACE (2,500) (50c-65c-98c). Gross: \$22,000. (Average: \$21,000)

THAT LADY IN ERMINE (20th-Fox)—ORIENTAL (3,300) (50c-65c-98c) Stage: Monica Lewis. 2nd week. Gross: \$40,000. (Average: \$45,000)

THE WALLS OF JERICHO (20th-Fox)—STATE LAKE (2,700) (50c-65c-98c) 2nd week. Gross: \$14,500. (Average: \$25,000)

TWO GUYS FROM TEXAS (WB)—ROOSEVELT (1,500) (50c-65c-98c). Gross: \$18,000. (Average: \$18,000)

PHILADELPHIA

Philadelphians who didn't rush to the mountains or shore for relief from one of the hottest weeks of the year found temporary comfort in air conditioned film houses. "Pitfall" at

the Earle and "Good Sam" at the Stanley were their favorite choice. Estimated receipts for week ending Aug. 31-Sept. 2:

ABBOTT & COSTELLO MEET FRANKENSTEIN (U-I)—KARLTON (1,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: \$13,500. (Average: \$11,200)

BABE RUTH STORY (AA-Mono.)—MAST-BAUM (4,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 3rd week. Gross: \$12,500. (Average: \$22,200)

CANON CITY (E-L)—STANTON (1,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: \$11,300. (Average: \$11,200)

DREAM GIRL (Para.)—ARCADIA (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd run. Gross: \$4,000. (Average: \$4,700)

EASTER PARADE (M-G-M)—KEITH (2,200) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd run. Gross: \$8,000. (Average: \$6,200)

A FOREIGN AFFAIR (Para.)—GOLD-MAN (1,400) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: \$16,000. (Average: \$19,400)

GOOD SAM (RKO Radio)—STANLEY (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: \$22,500. (Average: \$22,800)

MELODY TIME (RKO Radio)—ALDINE (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: \$15,500. (Average: \$13,300)

MR. BLANDINGS BUILDS HIS DREAM HOUSE (SRO)—BOYD (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: \$16,700. (Average: \$20,300)

PITFALL (UA)—EARLE (3,000) (50c-60c-75c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: \$24,000. (Average: \$22,500)

WALLS OF JERICHO (20th-Fox)—FOX (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: \$14,000. (Average: \$20,800)

BOSTON

Intense heat and humidity prevailed over the weekend but air-conditioned theatres managed to hold their own. "The Babe Ruth Story" and "Hamlet" are the only holdovers. Estimated receipts for the week ended Sept. 1:

A DATE WITH JUDY (M-G-M) and CLOSE-UP (E-L)—STATE (3,500) (40c-80c). Gross: \$14,500. (Average: \$12,000)

A DATE WITH JUDY (M-G-M) and CLOSE-UP (E-L)—ORPHEUM (3,000) (40c-80c). Gross: \$27,000. (Average: \$27,000)

ANTOINETTE AND ANTOINETTE (Shirley) and THE SEARCH (M-G-M)—EXETER (1,300) (40c-80c). Gross: \$1,500. 3 days. (Average: \$5,000)

EMPEROR WALTZ (Para.) and THE COUNTERFEITERS (20th-Fox)—EXETER (1,300) (40c-80c). Gross: \$2,200. 4 days. (Average: \$5,000)

FEUDIN', FUSSIN' AND A-FIGHTIN' (U-I) and I WOULDN'T BE IN YOUR SHOES (Mono.)—RKO BOSTON (3,200) (40c-80c). Gross: \$6,000.

HAMLET (U-I-Rank)—ASTOR (1,300) (90c-2.40). Gross: \$24,000. 2nd week.

LIFE WITH FATHER (WB) and DAREDEVILS OF THE CLOUDS (Rep.)—MET-

ROPOLITAN (4,367) (40c-80c). Gross: \$25,000. (Average: \$27,000)

THE BABE RUTH STORY (AA-Mono.) and DEVIL'S CARGO (FC)—RKO MEMORIAL (3,000) (40c-80c). Gross: \$23,000. (Average: \$22,000) 3rd week.

THE WALLS OF JERICHO (20th-Fox) and MICHAEL O'HALLORAN (Mono.)—PARAMOUNT (1,700) (40c-80c). Gross: \$14,500. (Average: \$17,000)

THE WALLS OF JERICHO (20th-Fox) and MICHAEL O'HALLORAN (Mono.)—FENWAY (1,373) (40c-80c). Gross: \$6,200. (Average: \$10,000)

CLEVELAND

Sizzling heat kept most people home but several downtown theatres report patrons stayed through two shows to keep cool. None showed big grosses but "Mine Own Executioner" at the Lower Mall and "Man Eater of Kumaon" at Loew's State brought the take above average. Estimated receipts for the week ended Aug. 31-Sept. 1:

ABBOTT & COSTELLO MEET FRANKENSTEIN (U-I)—LOEW'S STILLMAN (50c-70c) (1,900) 7 days. 2nd week on a move-over from the State. Gross: \$10,000. (Average: \$10,500)

CANON CITY (E-L)—RKO ALLEN (3,000) (55c-70c), 7 days. 2nd week on a hold-over. Gross: \$12,500. (Average: \$13,800)

MAN-EATER OF KUMAON (U-I)—LOEW'S OHIO (1,268) (50c-70c), 7 days. Gross: \$6,500. (Average: \$6,200)

MINE OWN EXECUTIONER (20th-Fox)—LOWER MALL (563) (50c-70c) 7 days. Gross: \$3,800. (Average: \$2,500)

MR. BLANDINGS BUILDS HIS DREAM HOUSE (SRO)—RKO PALACE (3,300) (55c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: \$18,000. (Average: \$16,000)

THAT LADY IN ERMINE (20th-Fox)—WARNERS' HIPPODROME (3,500) (55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: \$15,000. (Average: \$15,000)

THE TIME OF YOUR LIFE (UA)—LOEW'S STATE (3,300) (50c-70c) 7 days. Gross: \$19,000. (Average: \$19,300)

DENVER

For the most part business was good even though the weather was perfect for outdoor recreation. "Mr. Blandings Builds His Dream House" copped the big money, showing at three houses. Estimated receipts for the week ended Aug. 31-Sept. 1:

ABBOTT AND COSTELLO MEET FRANKENSTEIN (U-I) and CHECKERED COAT (20th-Fox)—RIALTO (878) (35c-74c) 7 days, after week at Denver, Webber, Aladdin. Gross: \$3,500. (Average: \$2,000)

ANOTHER PART OF THE FOREST (U-I)—BROADWAY (1,500) (35c-74c) 7 days. Gross: \$7,000. (Average: \$7,000)

DUDE GOES WEST (AA-Mono.) and SMART WOMAN (AA-Mono.)—PARAMOUNT (2,200) (35c-74c) 7 days. Gross: \$11,000. (Average: \$9,000)

FOREIGN AFFAIR (Para.)—DENHAM (1,750) (35c-74c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: \$8,000. (Average: \$11,000)

LIFE WITH FATHER (WB) and WALL-FLOWER (WB)—ALADDIN (1,400) (35c-74c) 7 days, after week at Denver and Esquire. Gross: \$5,000. (Average: \$2,500)

MR. BLANDINGS BUILDS HIS DREAM HOUSE (SRO)—DENVER (2,525) (35c-74c) 7 days. Gross: \$18,000. (Average: \$13,000)

MR. BLANDINGS BUILDS HIS DREAM HOUSE (SRO)—ESQUIRE (742) (35c-74c) 7 days. Gross: \$4,000. (Average: \$2,000)

MR. BLANDINGS BUILDS HIS DREAM HOUSE (SRO)—WEBBER (750) (35c-74c) 7 days. Gross: \$3,000. (Average: \$2,000)

ON AN ISLAND WITH YOU (M-G-M) and GUNS OF HATE (RKO Radio)—ORPHEUM (2,600) (35c-74c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: \$10,000. (Average: \$13,500)

Ohio Service Unit Adds Three Houses

CLEVELAND, Sept. 1.—Tony Stern and Lou Ratener of Ohio Theatre Service Corp., have announced a deal with Triangle Theatre Corp. whereby it will buy and book films for the circuit's Yorktown, Parma and Broadview theatres.

The company now is serving 30 theatres in this area, according to Stern.

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FIRST
IN
FILM
NEWS

54. NO. 46

NEW YORK, U.S.A., FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1948

TEN CENTS

TOA Combing Field for a New President

Gamble's Refusal to Run Turns Search to Board

CHICAGO, Sept. 2.—Directors of Theatre Owners of America are canvassing the organization's manpower for a likely presidential candidate to present to the national convention here, Sept. 24-25, as successor to Ted R. Gamble.

The directors have plenty of selections in mind and may come up with someone from among their own numbers inasmuch as the hunt has been pretty much confined thus far to regional vice-presidents of TOA, most of whom also are members of the board.

The name of Mitchell Wolfson of Miami is heard most frequently, but it is doubted whether he would consent to serve. He was strongly urged to take the presidency of the Motion Pic-

(Continued on page 2)

Gamble Withdrawal From West Reported

PORTLAND, Ore., Sept. 2.—Reports in trade circles here have it that Ted R. Gamble is considering selling his 11 theatres in the Northwest area. Gamble could not be reached for comment. He recently relinquished his Liberty Theatre, Spokane.

It is understood that Gamble wishes to establish residence in the East and concentrate on further development of his Monarch Theatres circuit. In this connection, it is known that his recent interest in acquiring all or part of United California Theatres from M. J. Naify has waned and the negotiations have been terminated.

Chicago's Oriental Drops Lower Price

CHICAGO, Sept. 2.—Effective today, the Essaness circuit's Oriental Theatre in the Loop will revert to a straight 98-cent admission price after one P.M., eliminating the recently adopted 65 cents scale from one P.M. to five P.M. Admission at 50 cents to one P.M., however, will continue.

Other Loop houses operated by Balaban and Katz and RKO will continue with the morning and afternoon reductions. The Woods, operated by Essaness, is the only Loop house using a straight 98-cent admission all day.

Ticket Price Trend Lower

WASHINGTON, Sept. 2.—The Bureau of Labor Statistics admission price index showed a sharp drop in adult admission prices, the first in over a year, and a continuing slow drop in children's admission prices during the second quarter of 1948.

The Bureau's figures are collected quarterly in 18 large cities, and adjusted to represent the average price trends in the 34 large cities in which the Bureau collects retail price data.

At the end of June, the index of adult admission prices was 66.4 per cent above the 1935-39 average, compared with the all-time high of 67.7 per cent at the end of March. The last drop in adult prices was during the 1947 second quarter.

Children's prices were 59.4 per cent above the 1935-39 average at the end of June, compared with 60 per cent at the end of March and 61 per cent at the end of 1947.

Mannix Back for MGM Studio Parleys

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 2.—With the expected return Tuesday of E. J. Mannix, studio executive, after an absence of three months due to illness, the first of a series of conferences will get under way at M-G-M on the company's production-distribution plans for winter and next spring, the company announced today. Mannix's physician said yesterday the M-G-M executive's recuperation was complete.

Attending the conferences in addition to Mannix will be Louis B. Mayer, head of the studio; Dore Schary, production vice-president, and William F. Rodgers, distribution vice-president, who is due here from the East tomorrow. Rodgers plans to spend two weeks at the studio.

Gen. McClure Lauds Films' Role in U. S. Foreign Policy

WASHINGTON, Sept. 2.—A fine plug for the job films are doing as an instrument of U. S. foreign policy came today from a top military man—Brigadier General Robert A. McClure, chief of the New York field office of the Army's Civil Affairs Division.

In a long report summarizing three years of Army activity using motion pictures in its orientation program in occupied areas, Gen. McClure lauds both the medium itself and the men in the industry supplying the Army with films.

The report stresses the huge audi-

Wanger Asks U.S. to Open World Markets

Producer Walter Wanger in New York yesterday called upon the U. S. State Department to gain access to all foreign markets for American films.

He asked for greater recognition by the U. S. Government and suggested that official Washington might be catered to by the industry. He said officials could be invited to Hollywood and illustrated brochures about the industry could be circulated in Washington. He also suggested an industry-sponsored radio program to build public relations.

Stein Will Handle 'Shoes' Roadshowing

Fred Stein has been named by Eagle-Lion distribution vice-president William J. Heineman to serve as special representative for the "roadshowing" of J. Arthur Rank's Technicolor production, "The Red Shoes," and other Rank films. Stein will work under the supervision of Heineman and the latter's assistant, L. Jack Schlaifer, starting immediately.

Stein, who joined the industry in 1922, has been a theatre operator, buyer, booker and distribution executive.

Chicago Bans 'Rope' On 'Moral Grounds'

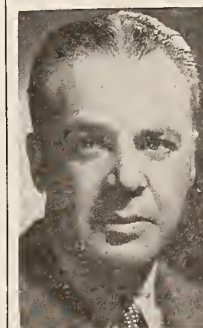
CHICAGO, Sept. 2.—"Rope" has been banned by the Chicago police censor board on "moral grounds." Warners, distributor of the picture, is expected to protest the rating given by censor board chief Harry Fulmer. The film's story bears a resemblance to the Leopold crime which occurred here.

Wanger Plans Roadshows for 'Joan of Arc'

Seeks Legal Plan Other Than Four - Wall Deals

Walter Wanger revealed here yesterday that he intends to roadshow his \$6,000,000 production of "Joan of Arc" and, mindful of the

U. S. Supreme Court's ban on price-fixing in the Paramount case, he said he is investigating methods, other than four-wall deals, of licensing the picture at advanced admissions within the law.



Walter Wanger

Wanger feels, contrary to industry legal opinion, that the high court's decision in the Paramount case was binding only on defendants. However, it is generally agreed that the ruling could serve as precedent for any exhibitor not satisfied with terms in booking a non-defendant's picture and in a mood

(Continued on page 3)

New M. P. Almanac Being Distributed

The 20th annual Motion Picture Almanac, published this week by Quigley Publishing Co., contains 11,000 biographies in its Who's Who in Motion Pictures section.

The 986-page book of facts and figures about the industry also contains the most comprehensive information available on foreign motion picture markets, including a special, extensive section on the British market and industry.

Edited by Terry Ramsaye, the 1948-'49 International Motion Picture Almanac is divided into 14 sections: bio-

(Continued on page 3)

No Paper Monday

Motion Picture Daily will not be published Monday, Sept. 6.

In case you'd forgotten, it's Labor Day, a legal holiday.

(Continued on page 3)

TOA Combing

(Continued from page 1)

ture Theatre Owners of America prior to its consolidation with TOA, and the presidency of the latter organization also was urged upon him a year ago. Wolfson steadfastly declined on both occasions, pleading that his business interests did not leave him sufficient time to devote to the office. It is believed he still holds to this conviction.

Advocates Changing Leadership

Gamble is advancing the same reason for declining another term as TOA president, as he contemplates expanding his theatre operations during the coming year. Gamble also strongly advocates a regular change in leadership for the organization, arguing that continuation of the same person or persons in office makes for an inflexible and backward organization.

There appears to be some likelihood, however, of Gamble being induced to serve as chairman of the board. Fred Wehrenberg, present board chairman, has been obliged to curtail activities lately for reasons of health and is understood to be anxious to relinquish the post.

Among the names frequently mentioned as likely TOA presidential material are those of Arthur Lockwood, Connecticut regional vice-president; Max Connitt, Mississippi, a TOA director; Morton Thalheimer, Virginia, a director; Ed Zorn, Illinois, regional vice-president; Ben Strozier, South Carolina, regional vice-president; Claude Mundo, Arkansas, a director.

Circuit Officials Reject Bids

The names of a number of heads of affiliated circuits also have been mentioned but, it is understood, all have flatly rejected the idea of accepting the post on the grounds that such a choice would be subjected to criticism and would deter TOA in recruiting new independent exhibitor members.

Actual presentation of a TOA presidential candidate may not be possible before the opening of the convention, many believe, and meanwhile efforts to induce Gamble to accept another term are continuing.

Sullivan Signs as Lobbyist

WASHINGTON, Sept. 2.—Gael Sullivan, executive director of Theatre Owners of America, has registered as a lobbyist here.

Defer Signing AFM Contract Extension

A tentatively scheduled meeting for formal signing of the agreement extending for one year without change the contract between American Federation of Musicians and major studios, did not take place yesterday. Reason: most of the studio executives returned to Hollywood before Petrillo could get in touch with them.

Now the mails are expected to be resorted to for collecting the necessary signatures to the new studio musicians "compromise" contract agreed upon a week ago. AFM retains the right to reopen negotiations on 60 days' notice.

Personal Mention

SAM L. SEIDELMAN, Eagle-Lion general manager in charge of foreign distribution, is in Hollywood from New York.

FRED MEYER, Universal-International Eastern division manager; **DAVE MILLER**, district manager, and **LOUIS BLUMENTHAL**, Prestige Pictures sales manager, were in Albany yesterday from New York.

HAROLD CONRAD, Eagle-Lion representative, has returned to New York from England. He will be here for about a week before departing for Chicago to assist with the premiere of "The Olympic Games of 1948."

H. M. RICHEY, M-G-M exhibitor relations head, is due back here Tuesday from Detroit and Toronto.

TOM LOY, IATSE publicist here, was confined to his home yesterday with a cold.

AL BRODER has returned as manager of the Rainbow Theatre, Detroit, replacing **ROBERT JUCKETT**, resigned.

FLOYD B. ODLUM is due to arrive here next week from the Coast.

Michigan Allied Sets Reorganization Plan

DETROIT, Sept. 2.—Allied Theatres of Michigan held the final business session of its current meeting here today with considerable discussion revolving around its new plan of membership representation. A reception and a banquet followed the session.

Charles Snyder, executive secretary, reported that the present officers and board of directors will be retained for about 90 days when the new organization plan will be in operation and new directors and officers can be elected under the new system.

Assure Film Delivery Here Despite Strike

Film carrier deliveries will continue uninterrupted in New York regardless of the duration of the recent walk-out by thousands of truck-driver members of Local 807 of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, AFL. This assurance came yesterday from a spokesman of the Motion Picture Film Handlers' Association, the independent union to which film truckers belong.

The union has a membership of about 85 drivers employed by nine local film delivery services.

Referee for 20th's Stockholders' Suit

Jacob R. Demov was named referee yesterday by New York State Supreme Court Justice Ferdinand Pecora to examine all evidence, exhibits and papers in connection with the proposed settlement of 20th Century-Fox minority stockholders' suits involving sale of 40,000 shares of National Theatres' stock. Settlement will be held in abeyance pending Demov's report.

MONROE GREENTHAL, president of Monroe Greenthal Co., film advertising agency, will be married today to **RUTH BARTON DAVEY**, radio actress, at the home of **MATTHEW FOX**, Universal vice-president. The couple will honeymoon in Bermuda.

OSCAR A. DOOB, Loew's Theatres executive, and **ERNEST EMERLING**, advertising director, returned to New York yesterday from Boston where they attended the funeral of **JOE DIPESA**, veteran Loew publicist.

DAVID O. SELZNICK has been awarded by **PRESIDENT ALEMAN** of Mexico a gold medal as "testimony of gratitude" for the producer's contributions to that nation's anti-tuberculosis fund.

MAURICE GABLE, Philadelphia district manager of Stanley-Warner's first-runs, is on an automobile vacation trip.

SAMUEL N. BURGER, M-G-M foreign sales manager, will leave here Sept. 10 on a four-month trip to Europe, the Orient, and Africa.

Schlaifer Lectures Set for New School

Charles Schlaifer, 20th Century-Fox director of advertising and publicity, will deliver a series of lectures at the New School for Social Research in New York during the new session under the general title of "Motion Picture Publicity and Public Relations."

The school also has announced **The Charles Schlaifer Award** in public relations. The award will be presented to a promising student whose special field of interest is in motion picture publicity.

John'n' Chick Feudin' With 'U' Over 'Fussin'

John S. Olson and **Chick Johnson**, the comedians, and theatrical producer **Lee Shubert**, filed in U. S. District Court here yesterday a \$250,000 damage action against Universal-International charging unauthorized use of the song "Feudin' and a'Fightin'" and a sketch in the film, "Feudin', Fussin' and a'Fightin'." Plaintiffs seek an injunction against the further showing of the picture and an accounting of profits.

Oscar Ray Services

DALLAS, Sept. 2.—Funeral services were held here today for **Oscar Ray**, 57, exhibitor, who died Tuesday after a year's illness. Ray had operated theatres and other amusement places in this area for the past 10 years.

Ent. Drops 'Racket' Title

"Force of Evil" is announced by Enterprize as the final title of the picture formerly called "The Numbers Racket," a title which was vetoed by the Motion Picture Association of America. M-G-M will release.

Industry Council in First Official Action

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 2.—Although still in its formative stages, the Motion Picture Industry Council, which is being set up as an industry-wide public relations organization, yesterday took its first official action by issuing a statement in connection with the Robert Mitchum narcotics case. The statement, released by chairman **Dore Schary**, blasted as "shocking, capricious and untrue," any implications that widespread use of narcotics exists in the industry.

Tacoma Drive-In Fire

SEATTLE, Sept. 2.—The outdoor screen of the new Auto-Vue Drive-In Theatre, south of Tacoma, was destroyed by fire last night. Defective wiring is believed to have caused the fire, according to **William Forman**, owner of the theatre.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL

Rockefeller Center

"A DATE WITH JUDY"

Wallace BEERY • Jane POWELL
Elizabeth TAYLOR • Carmen MIRANDA
Xavier CUGAT • Robert STACK
A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture

SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

ROY DEL RUTH'S "THE BABE RUTH STORY" Starring WILLIAM CLARE BENDIX-TREVOR CHARLES BICKFORD An Allied Artists Production COOL ASTOR 8 WAY AT 45TH ST. Cont. Performances • Pop Prices

Barbara Stanwyck Burt Lancaster in "SORRY, WRONG NUMBER" A Paramount Release DARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

Betty Grable • Douglas Fairbanks, Jr. "THAT LADY IN ERMINE" A 20th Century-Fox Picture—TECHNICOLOR On Variety Stage—FRANCES LANGFORD & JON HALL • HARMONICATS JERRY COLONNA On Ice Stage—"THE MERRY WIDOW" Starring CAROL LYNNE • FRITZ DIETL ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

ROSALIND RUSSELL in "THE VELVET TOUCH" A FREDERICK BRISSON PRODUCTION Released through RKO RIVOLI B'way & 49th St.

LAFF BEGINS

ON

'K'-DAY!

P S
PLENTY SIZZLING!
MUSIC TOO!

Samuel Goldwyn

Army Moves Its Film Unit Out of Berlin

WASHINGTON, Sept. 2.—The film branch of the U. S. Military Government in Germany transferred on July 31 from Berlin to Geiseltal, in Bavaria, the Department of the Army announced.

Policy and administration of the branch will continue to be directed from Berlin and documentary films will continue to be produced in the Berlin-Tempelhof studios, but actual editing, writing, distributing and other film activities are now concentrated in Bavaria.

Allocation of sufficient electric current enabled the documentary unit to continue full production, the Army said. Special films dealing with the Berlin crisis were produced.

Gen. McClure

(Continued from page 1)

rides lack of education . . . it interests those people while at the same time it instructs them and makes a lasting impression."

MPEA Supplied 250 Features

Since the beginning of the occupation, Gen. McClure reports, the Motion Picture Export Association has supplied approximately 250 different feature films and about 40 documentaries. Nearly all of these have been shown in Japan, while approximately 100 titles have been shown in Austria and Korea and slightly fewer in Germany. In Germany, however, about 20 to 30 prints of each film are circulated, while Austria prints about four. Japan usually processes about 12 prints of each film, of which three go to Korea.

At the moment, another 100 features are being procured or processed by MPEA for the Army, the report said. "The objective of the Army motion picture program," the report stated, "continues to be to expose to audiences in the four countries the essential falsity of police state ideology, the catastrophic results of this ideology to all mankind, and to rekindle a sense of moral responsibility in the people of the occupied areas."

3,500,000 Expected Weekly

Gen. McClure declares that more than 2,000,000 Japanese saw our documentary films the last week in July, and estimates that this soon will increase to 3,500,000 weekly. In South Korea, one documentary alone—"The People Vote"—drew 3,000,000, and close to 96,000,000 Germans saw U. S. factuals in the first quarter of 1948.

Gen. McClure said that the Army's arrangement with the five major U. S. newsreel companies has provided the occupied areas with over 110,000 feet of selected news film. In return, newsreel and television companies have gotten news footage shot by the Army in occupied areas.

Carbon Projection Short

Designed to explain the "brilliance and color value" of a new technique of carbon arc projection which concentrates a light intensity of 8,500,000 foot candles on an aperture the size of a single frame of film, "Carbon Arc Projection," a 15-minute short in Technicolor, will be shown to the press on Sept. 15 at RCA Exhibit Hall here under the auspices of National Carbon Co. The film will have its "premiere" on Sept. 30 at the Jefferson Hotel, St. Louis.

Wanger Plans

(Continued from page 1)

for litigation. Wanger repeated that the matter is "under investigation," when questioned further.

RKO Radio, immediately bound by the Supreme Court's decision, is the distributor of "Joan" but Wanger indicated that he is negotiating a deal with other interests to represent him in the selling.

If Wanger goes through with present plans, it would be the first instance of selling a picture at tilted scales since the high court's decision, except by the four-wall deal method.

Will Open Here in November

The producer said "Joan" will open in New York in November with the booking now being discussed. He neither confirmed nor denied a report that the film likely will tenant the newly modernized, 1,200-seat Victoria here.

He indicated he ultimately might use some "four-wall" theatre-leasing deals in which case he would be free to set his own admission scales.

Wanger said that he, Victor Fleming, director; and Ingrid Bergman, star, of "Joan," participated in the second-money financing. Bankers Trust put up \$3,500,000 in first-money loans, he said. The picture, in Technicolor, totaled \$4,600,000 in negative costs and this increases to about \$6,000,000 when advertising and prints are taken into account, he said. It follows that the distributor's share will bring the break-even figure to over \$7,000,000.

\$350,000 for Advance Ads

Wanger said that \$350,000 will be spent in advertising in advance of the New York opening, including national insertions.

Wanger, veering to other subjects, questioned the wisdom of the American film company's boycott of the British market in consequence of the 75 per cent *ad valorem* duty last winter.

New M. P. Almanac

(Continued from page 1)

graphical Who's Who, Corporations, Theatre Circuits, Pictures, Services, Codes and Censorship, Theatre Equipment and Materials, Organizations, the Government suit, Motion Pictures in Industry and Education, the Industry in Great Britain, the World Market, the Press, Television and Radio.

While most of its contents are brief, sharp facts, it presents the full texts of such important current documents as the Supreme Court decision in the industry case, texts of the Production Code and Advertising Code, and a list of 100 films produced from 1903 to the present selected by Red Kann as the all-time greats.

16mm. Film Program Advances in Mexico

MEXICO CITY, Sept. 2.—While devaluation of the peso has hit the Mexican 16mm. film program hard, Peliculas Nacionales, distributor for Mexico's five largest producers, points out that theatre circuits for sub-standard films have been established in the provinces. The weakened peso has nearly doubled the cost of 16mm. films but, indicative of Peliculas Nacionales' confidence that no 16mm. depression is in sight, the company has some 300 films, both Mexican and foreign, for distribution in narrow-gauge form.

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY correspondents. Estimates omit admission tax.

KANSAS CITY

Temperatures mostly in high nineties; humid. Hot weather encouraged many to attend cooled theatres but not to the extent expected; subsequent runs generally continued below so-called normal except for outstanding features. Estimated receipts for the week ended Aug. 31-Sept. 2:

THE BABE RUTH STORY (AA-Mono.)—FAIRWAY (700) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: \$2,100. (Average: \$1,750)

THE BABE RUTH STORY (AA-Mono.)—TOWER (2,100) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: \$10,400.

THE BABE RUTH STORY (AA-Mono.)—UPTOWN (2,000) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: \$7,200. (Average: \$6,000)

FEUDIN', FUSSIN' AND A-FIGHTING' (U-I)—ESQUIRE (800) (45c-65c) 7 days. 2nd week, moveover after 1 week at Fairway, Tower, Uptown. Gross: \$3,750. (Average: \$5,000)

A FOREIGN AFFAIR (Para.)—PARAMOUNT (1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days. 2nd week. Gross: \$10,500. (Average: \$10,000)

THE PARADINE CASE (SRO)—MIDLAND (3,500) (45c-65c) 2 days, 2nd week. Gross: \$3,000. (Average: 2 days: \$3,500)

THE TIME OF YOUR LIFE (UA) and FRIEDA (U-I)—MIDLAND (3,500) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: \$17,500. (Average: \$15,000)

THE VELVET TOUCH (RKO Radio) and EXPOSED (Rep.)—ORPHEUM (1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: \$11,000. (Average: \$10,000)

Buy Ohio Theatre

CLEVELAND, Sept. 2. — Nate and Sam Schultz and Nate and Dave Marcus, who own and operate five theatres in this area, have purchased the Ohio Theatre, Marion, O., from John J. Huebner, who owned the house for 20 years. Lockwood Jennings, manager of their Quilna Theatre in Lima, has been appointed by the new owners as district manager in charge of both the Lima and Marion houses. The Ohio will be remodeled at an estimated cost of \$50,000.

Albany Variety Outing

ALBANY, Sept. 2.—An outing will be held by Variety Club here at Picards Grove on Sept. 13. On the committee are Charles Smakwitz, Warner zone manager; Harry Lamont of Lamont Theatres; Jack Bullwinkle, Columbia manager; Ray Smith, Warner manager; and Joseph Weinstein, Warner short subject booker.

PUZZLE-BANK

The Game That Insures A
Box Office Boom

Enterprise House, Inc., 198 Broadway
New York City Digby 9-1278

WANTED

TALKING DOG, BEAR or HORSE
to narrate animal film for well known documentary series. Must have good voice. No birds or cows.

Call PL. 9-3600, ext. 6.

20'S LUCKY MONTH IS LU

LUCKY
IN LAUGHS!



THE LUCK OF THE IRISH

EVERYONE IS SAYING YOU
CAN'T BEAT IT!

TYRONE POWER • ANNE BAXTER in "THE LUCK OF THE IRISH" with CECIL KELLAWAY, LEE J. COBB, James Todd, Jayne Meadows, J. M. Kerrigan, Phil Brown, Charles Irwin • Directed by HENRY KOSTER • Produced by FRED KOHLMAR • Screen Play by Philip Dunne
Based on a Novel by Guy and Constance Jones

LUCKY
IN SPECTACLE!

FOREVER AMBER

TECHNICOLOR

FIRST FIRST-RUN DATES
FOR AMBER - FIRST TIME
AT REGULAR PRICES!



DENVER	BIRMINGHAM	BUTTE
ST. LOUIS	LOUISVILLE	TACOMA
SPOKANE	KNOXVILLE	RICHMOND
LINCOLN	MONTGOMERY	TERRE HAUTE
OMAHA	DES MOINES	LAFAYETTE
ATLANTA	NASHVILLE	TORONTO
PORTLAND	BALTIMORE	GREAT FALLS
SEATTLE	INDIANAPOLIS	TULSA

"FOREVER AMBER" • Color by TECHNICOLOR • Starring LINDA DARNELL • CORNEL WILDE • RICHARD GREENE and GEORGE SANDERS with GLENN LANGAN, RICHARD HAYDN, JESSICA TANDY, ANNE REVERE
Directed by OTTO PREMINGER • Produced by WILLIAM PERLBERG • From the Novel by KATHLEEN WINSOR • Screen Play by Philip Dunne and Ring Lardner, Jr. • Adaptation by Jerome Cady

It's LUCKY MONTH at

20

CENTURY-FOX

Y FOR SHOWMEN EVERYWHERE!

LUCKY
IN SONGS!



That
**LADY IN
ERMINE**
TECHNICOLOR

EVERYONE IS SINGING ABOUT

That BUSINESS!

BETTY GRABLE • DOUGLAS FAIRBANKS, Jr. in "THAT LADY IN ERMINE" • Color by TECHNICOLOR with CESAR ROMERO, WALTER ABEL, REGINALD GARDINER
Produced and Directed by ERNST LUBITSCH • Screen Play by Samson Raphaelson • Lyrics and Music by Leo Robin and Frederick Hollander • Dances Staged by Hermes Pan

LUCKY
IN LOVE!



**THE
WALLS OF
JERICHO**

THE ROMANTIC DRAMA THAT'S
PACKING THEM TO THE WALLS!

CORNEL WILDE • LINDA DARNELL • ANNE BAXTER
KIRK DOUGLAS in "THE WALLS OF JERICHO" with ANN DVORAK, Marjorie Rambeau, Henry Hull, Colleen Townsend, Barton MacLane, Griff Barnett, William Tracy, Art Baker • Directed by JOHN M. STAHL • Produced by LAMAR TROTTI • Screen Play by Lamar Trotti • Based on the Novel by Paul Wellman

YOUTH MONTH All Over America!

One
picture
is worth
a
million
words

when that
picture

DICK POWELL
LIZABETH SCOTT
"PITFALL"

... when that picture is playing to an all-time UA record
at the Capitol Theatre, New York...

... when that picture is doing the same record-breaking business
in San Francisco, Atlantic City, Philadelphia and Washington!

... when that picture's inaugural business portends one of
the greatest moneymakers of the year in every
situation across the country!

... when that picture is from UA

Regal Films presents DICK POWELL and LIZABETH SCOTT
in "PITFALL" with JANE WYATT and Raymond Burr • Byron Barr • John Litel
Ann Doran • Jimmy Hunt • Selmer Jackson • Based on the Novel "The Pitfall" by Jay Dratler
Screenplay by Karl Kamb • Directed by Andre de Toth • Produced by Samuel Bischoff

Accurate
Concise
and
Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

FIRST
FILM
NEWS

4. NO. 47

NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1948

TEN CENTS

Tax Receipts Show Grosses Off Only 2.8%

**Put Take for First Half
Of 1948 at \$765,093,610**

WASHINGTON, Sept. 6. — Box-office receipts haven't been nose-diving nearly as sharply as some exhibitors report, at least, not according to the tax collection figures of the Bureau of Internal Revenue.

They indicate that business during the first six months of this year was less than three percent below 1947 first half receipts.

This means an even greater cut in profits, however, since costs have been rising steadily. But most industry estimates have held that box-office grosses are off 10 per cent or better from 1947 levels.

Not so, say the tax collection reports. General admission tax collections for the months from February through July, reflecting box-office business January through June, total \$180,022,027, compared with \$185,102,674 in record-breaking 1947.

This is a drop of just slightly over
(Continued on page 2)

Studio Employment Index Down to 77.2

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 6. — Losing the moderate recoveries it showed during May and June, studio employment dropped during July to 77.2 on the California Labor Statistics Bureau's monthly employment index.

Reports are based on the 1940 average, which is rated 100.

The studios' employment index for June was at 86.4. In July, 1947, the index was 102.6, compared with this July's 77.2.

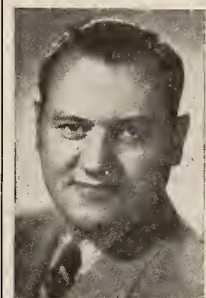
Colosseum Pact Talks Continue This Week

Distributors' negotiating representatives and those of the Colosseum of Motion Picture Salesmen of America are expected to continue well into this week their discussions on a proposed wages-and-hours contract for the newly-unionized salesmen of the industry, David Beznor, Colosseum attorney, indicated here at the weekend.

It is understood that when the talks are resumed here this morning, discussion will center around counter-proposals submitted by the 11 companies involved. Negotiations were conducted throughout last week.

Heineman Sees 50% Revenue Rise for E-L This Season

Eagle-Lion's distribution revenue will increase by a minimum of 50 per cent for the 1948-49 selling season, over the 1947-48 season, William J. Heineman,



Wm. J. Heineman

distribution vice president, predicted at the weekend at a press conference marking the completion of his first half year with the company.

Heineman said his forecast is based upon conclusions drawn from a company survey of current business trends. The increase foreseen, he said, will stem from better grosses generally, higher rentals and an increased number of bookings.

Theatre business is definitely on the
(Continued on page 2)

Smith Plan Up to N. J. Allied Board

The film committee of Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey, consisting of Wilbur Snaper, Irving Dollinger and George Gold, will present to the next board of directors' meeting for adoption the so-called Berger-Smith exhibitor-distributor conciliation plan, it was reported following a meeting here of the committee with Andy W. Smith, Jr., 20th-Fox's general sales manager, on Friday. The
(Continued on page 2)

Government Aid to U. K. Industry Seen Ineffectual

LONDON, Sept. 6.—The authoritative *Westminster Bank Review* in a discussion of the British film situation in its latest number declares that in the past legislative efforts by the government to stimulate the industry had failed and it appears unlikely that the 1948 Act will prove any more effective.

"The problems facing the industry are as difficult now as they have ever been," the *Review* states. "The production of sufficient first feature films of adequate entertainment value to enable exhibitors to meet the 45 per cent quota will be possible only if there is a very great increase in output here.

SIMPP Is Undecided On U.K. Booking Plan

Hollywood, Sept. 6.—Members of the Society of Independent M. P. Producers are awaiting the receipt of detailed information concerning Eric Johnston's program of booking all-American programs in Britain starting Oct. 1, before committing themselves to the plan. It is likely that a meeting of the executive committee or membership of SIMPP will be called after details of the plan are received, at which time the organization will decide whether or not to become a party to it. In formulating his plan of action in London Johnston was not authorized to commit SIMPP.

Charges of 'Forcing' Are Sent to D. of J.

ELDORA, Ia., Sept. 6.—Data on specific cases of alleged picture forcing by conditioning the licensing of one film on the licensing of another or others has been forwarded to the Department of Justice in Washington by Allied Theatre Owners of Iowa-Nebraska, Leo F. Wolcott, chairman of the board, reports in a current membership bulletin.

No details of the complaints or the companies or theatres involved are disclosed. Conditioning the licensing of one picture on that of another is explicitly prohibited by the U. S. Supreme Court decision in the industry anti-trust case and top sales executives have repeatedly warned their sales forces against the practice.

Warners Sell Two Theatres In Milwaukee

**Link to Divestiture Seen;
Gamble May Be Buyer**

CHICAGO, Sept. 6.—Sale of the Tower and Oriental theatres, Milwaukee neighborhood houses, by Warners to undisclosed purchasers was revealed here at the weekend.

Local speculation centered on the possibility that Ted R. Gamble might be identified with the purchasers. Gamble reportedly has been engaged in negotiations here recently with James Coston, Warner division theatre head for this area, which includes the circuit's Milwaukee operations.

Gamble acquired the Monarch Circuit from the late Harry Katz some time ago and, according to reports, he plans to dispose of his Pacific Northwest theatres and concentrate on the expansion of his operations in the Middle West.

Equally spirited speculation centered on the possible extent to which Warners plan to go in divesting theatre holdings. Besides the sale of the two
(Continued on page 2)

Warners Relinquish Another Theatre

Warner Bros. Theatres, following a pattern set earlier in not renewing expiring theatre leases in Cleveland and elsewhere, relinquished operation of the Lincoln theatre, Kearney, N. J., with the expiration of the lease on the 1,267-seat house last week.

A 21-year lease on the house was taken by Skouras Theatres in partnership with Murray Stahl. The new lessors also operate the 1,500-seat Regent in Kearny and the Rivoli and Rex in Rutherford, N. J. Berk and Krumgold were brokers on the new Lincoln lease.

5,000 RKO Shares Sold by N. P. Rathvon

WASHINGTON, Sept. 6.—N. Peter Rathvon, former RKO president, sold 5,000 shares of RKO common in three transactions on July 26, 27, and 28, according to the latest Securities and Exchange Commission report on trading from July 11 to Aug. 10. Rathvon was left with 15,000 shares at the end of that period.

Universal director Daniel M. Sheaffer sold a total of 7,500 shares of Uni-
(Continued on page 2)

Personal Mention

WALTER WANGER returned to the Coast from New York at the weekend.

HAROLD MARSHALL, M-G-M exploitation representative in the Indianapolis territory, has resigned, effective Sept. 11. His activities will be absorbed by **J. E. WATSON**, Cincinnati exploiter.

LOUIS BLUMBERG, assistant sales manager of Prestige Pictures, and **FRED MEYERS**, Eastern division sales manager of Universal Pictures, are on a sales trip to Albany, N. Y., and Cooperstown.

ARTHUR GREENBLATT, Screen Guild Eastern sales manager, is in Hollywood for conferences with **ROBERT L. LIPPERT**, president and **FRANCIS A. BATEMAN**, general sales manager. He returns to New York this week.

PAUL N. LAZARUS, JR., United Artists executive assistant to the president, will return here today from Chicago and Milwaukee.

JOHN HEALY, assistant to **GEORGE BOWSER**, Fox West Coast general manager, and **MRS. HEALY**, are the parents of a nine-and-a-half-pound girl.

EDWARD FINNEY, Screen Guild producer, and **MRS. FINNEY** are the parents of a new six-and-a-half-pound daughter.

J. D. TROP left here for Hollywood yesterday for production conferences.

AFM, Independents Meet Again Today

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 6.—Another negotiating session between representatives of the American Federation of Musicians and independent producers for a new contract to cover studio musicians will be held tomorrow afternoon at Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers headquarters here. The first session was adjourned shortly after it was convened on Friday when it appeared that the talks could not be concluded at the one session.

Reade Opens Drive-In

After several delays due to adverse weather conditions, the **Walter Reade Drive-In Theatre No. 1**, near Woodbridge, N. J., was opened last Saturday night. It is the first drive-in in Middlesex County and one of the largest in the East, having an initial capacity of 950 cars.

Gets Loew's Boston Post

BOSTON, Sept. 6.—**James L. Shanahan** has been appointed advertising and publicity director of Loew's Boston theatres by **Charles E. Kurtzman**, Loew's Northeastern division manager. Shanahan succeeds the late **Joe A. Di Pesa**.

Rathvon Sells Stock

(Continued from page 1)

versal common in 16 separate transactions during July, dropping his holdings to 5,307 shares. **Preston Davie** sold 200 shares of Universal common.

At Monogram, **W. Ray Johnston** continued to sell heavily, disposing of 2,000 shares on Aug. 8, leaving him with 2,617 shares. The previous month's report showed Johnston sold 8,000 shares. He still holds options for 12,500 shares. **Norton V. Ritchey** also sold 2,000 shares, leaving him with 3,954.

Albert Warner bought 6,500 shares of his firm's \$5 par common, boosting his holdings to 434,500 shares.

In another announcement stemming from the acquisition of RKO control by **Howard Hughes**, it was reported that **Dore Schary** held no Loew's stock when he became an officer of that company.

Loew's picked up another 75 shares of Loew's Boston Theatres, \$25 par common, increasing its holdings to 123,179 shares.

Harry Brandt bought another 100 shares of Trans Lux Corp. common, increasing his personal holdings to 88,665 shares. His wife owns 14,700 shares.

Holdings listed by new Trans Lux directors were as follows: **Jay Emanuel**, 6,000, **Lee Shubert**, 3,500, personally, while **Lee and J. J. Shubert** hold another 3,000, and **Jacob Starr**, 2,000.

Warners Sell

(Continued from page 1)

Milwaukee houses, **Warners** recently relinquished the Lake, Cleveland, and proposes to withdraw from operation of the Allen in that city, which it has shared with RKO. It disposed of the Warner, New York; a suburban theatre in New Jersey and has been reported to be interested in giving up several of its Philadelphia houses.

Warner Theatres' home office officials could not be reached for comment at the weekend.

N. J. Allied, Smith

(Continued from page 1)

Jersey Allied board is expected to meet in about two weeks.

Formal approval by the board would be followed by the appointment by **Jersey Allied** president **Edward Lachman** of a grievance committee of six members.

Heads Screening Unit

DES MOINES, Sept. 6.—**J. P. Lannan**, exhibitor of West Point, Neb., has been appointed chairman of the Allied Independent Theatre Owners of Iowa and Nebraska screening committee by **A. C. Myrick**, president of the AITO. Others on the committee are **Frank Good** of Red Oak, Ia., and **Oscar Hanson**, Omaha.

Open New Drive-In

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 6.—Theatre of Tomorrow, a new drive-in on the Ridge Pike here, opened at the weekend. Operated by **Wintner Brothers** of Cleveland, it occupies 40 acres and holds about 1,100 cars.

Production Index Down Three to 26

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 6.—The production tally stood at 26, dropping three from last week's index. Three new films were launched while six were completed.

Shooting started on "Rough Sketch" (Horizon), Columbia; "A Mask for Lucretia," Paramount; and "Montana," Warner Brothers.

Shooting finished on "The Crime Doctor's Diary," Columbia; "Caught," Enterprise; "Gunning for Justice," Monogram; "Last of the Wild Horses" (Lippert), Screen Guild; "Belle Starr's Daughter" (Alson) (formerly "Rose of Cimarron"), 20th Century-Fox; and "The House Across the Street," Warner Brothers.

Dembow Drive Meets In Chicago and L.A.

National Screen Service regional sales meetings are to be held today in Chicago and Los Angeles to lay plans for the "George Dembow Tribute" drive which is to begin next Monday. **Dembow** is vice-president in charge of sales. District and branch managers and salesmen will participate in the sessions today, with **William Bein** acting as captain of the campaign in the East and **Ben Ashe** captain in the West.

Heineman

(Continued from page 1)

upgrade, **Heineman** said, adding that he believes Aug. 15 saw the end of the so-called "summer slump." He hesitated to say whether, in his opinion, there stands a possibility that the 10 to 12 per cent drop-off in grosses, which had been evidenced since last Jan. 1, would be compensated for before the end of the year. He did feel, however, that a good part of that slack would be taken up by Dec. 31.

E-L, he said, will lease theatres in New York, Boston, Washington, Philadelphia, Chicago, Los Angeles and San Francisco, for "roadshowing" on a "four-wall deal" basis **J. Arthur Rank's** Technicolor film, "Red Shoes." Top prices will be \$1.20 for matinee and \$2.40 evenings, **Heineman** said, indicating that plans are to show the film nowhere at lower admissions for at least a year. In addition to the 17 "top budget" pictures already announced for the next eight months, **Heineman** said, there will be one "program" picture a month released by **E-L**.

Tax Receipts

(Continued from page 1)

\$5,000,000, or not quite 2.8 per cent.

In two months, in fact, 1948 collections exceeded 1947. These were March and June, reflecting box-office business in February and May.

Motion picture theatres are generally considered to account for 80 per cent to 85 per cent of the general admission tax collections. Using the 85 per cent figure, and assuming collections are about 20 per cent of the box-office take, 1948 first half grosses were about \$765,093,610, compared with \$786,686,360 in the first half of last year.

Newsreel Parade

THE 50th anniversary of **Queen Wilhelmina** and the spy investigations in Washington are highlighted in the current newsreels. Other items include the Greek fighting, sports, fashion and a baby parade. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 71—**Queen Wilhelmina** feted at end of 50-year reign. Chief communist in U. S. identified by mer Red. World events: Greek war, lin plane crash, Lourdes pilgrimage. Governor Green hails national youth month. Sports: Navy, Notre Dame football training. Gen. Eisenhower fishing.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 201—Ex-communist puts finger on mysterious spy chief. Greek rebels routed in Mt. Gramos battle. Navy's Hawaii-to-Chicago flight sets record. Sports: tennis, football.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 4—Ship news: celebrities sail aboard the *Queen Mary*. Tribute to **Queen Wilhelmina**. Football.

UNIVERSAL NEWS, No. 176—Shanghai fights inflation. Canadian national exposition. Gen. Eisenhower dedicates hospital. Gala Belgium festival. Asbury Park baby parade. Spanish ax-chopping contest. Tiny swimmer takes bow.

WARNER PATHE NEWS, No. 6—Chambers identifies Red spy boss. Latest news from Berlin. **Queen Wilhelmina** golden jubilee. Tennis. Coats in the news. Great Americans: Washington's farewell address.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center

"A DATE WITH JUDY"

Wallace BEERY • Jane POWELL
Elizabeth TAYLOR • Carmen MIRANDA
Xavier CUGAT • Robert STACK
A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

ROY DEL RUTH'S "THE BABE RUTH STORY"
WILLIAM CLARE
Starring **BENDIX-TREVOR**
An Allied Artists Production
CHARLES BICKFORD
COOL ASTOR B'WAY AT 45TH ST. Cont. Performances • Pop Prices

Barbara Stanwyck
Burt Lancaster

in Person
CHARLEN CAVALLO And His Orchestra
plus **THE MARTIN BROTHERS**
Jack E. Leonard

"SORRY, WRONG NUMBER"
A Paramount Release
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

ROSALIND RUSSELL
in
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Released through **RKO**
RIVOLI B'way & 49th St.

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Short Subject

"Life With Grandpa"

(March of Time—20th-Fox)

There being some 10,000,000 people in the U. S. who are over 60 years old, most of whom have progeny, this March of Time subject has a substantial potential patronage. It deals with problems confronting America's oldest. The film contains shots of happy and contented old folks and of those aged who are left to the mercy of charity. It editorializes with mild forcefulness in behalf of adequate social security and old age pensions, and examines the Townsend Plan and operations of agencies which seek employment for those over 60, and points out the accomplishments of many famous oldsters who are active today—George Bernard Shaw, for example. Running time, 17 minutes.

Reviews

"My Dear Secretary"

(Popkin-United Artists)

LIFE proves an endless whirl of unforeseen excitements for lovely Laraine Day once she lands a job as secretary to a popular young novelist. Many a tedium-bound secretary is likely to muse wistfully: "It should only happen to me." Kirk Douglas is the writer, and a dashing rogue he makes in this Harry M. Popkin production. The film is a high-speed comedy, light and inconsequential in story content, but full of mirthful complications and popular-flavored corn. For an additional measure of antics, Keenan Wynn and Rudy Vallee are added to the cast. At an upper Manhattan theatre where it was "sneaked" the other night, the audience rollicked with continuous laughter.

It is an uplifting and intellectual atmosphere that Miss Day expects once she goes to work for Douglas, but instead she finds his working apartment a disordered menagerie of oddly intruding characters, and most of the atmosphere is of the racetrack and gambling center variety. It isn't long before Miss Day quits, but she really loves the guy and so they are married. But now there follows the nuisance of Douglas' reckless debts, not to mention those mink coats he was in the habit of giving his previous secretaries. Complications develop, Douglas' writing talent wanes, and worse, he suspects Miss Day of being in love with her ex-boss, Vallee. A separation follows, punctuated by some flurries and chases, but things finally turn out right, after a fashion. That is, the two are reunited, but only after Miss Day writes a sensational best-seller and Douglas winds up as her secretary. Many a tedium-bound novelist is likely to muse wistfully: "It should only happen to me."

Some of the picture's more memorable touches are provided by Wynn during his interminable exits and entrances. Charles Martin directed and did the screenplay; Popkin produced.

Running time, 94 minutes. General audience classification. Set for November release.

MANDEL HERBSTMAN

"Symphonie Pastorale"

(Films International)

"SYMPHONIE PASTORALE" ranks among the finest French films to reach these shores. It represents first-rate film making, and should find the widest appeal here. In a sense, it has everything one can—and generally does—ask of an intelligent French film. Its story, about a blind girl who ruins the lives of the two people she loves most, comes from the pen of Andre Gide and has all the drama and emotion an audience could expect. Its actors, Michele Morgan and Pierre Blanchar, give outstanding performances and the film itself was honored with several prizes at the Cannes festival. Jean Dellancy was the director.

The picture was photographed partly in the Alps and its scenery contributes materially to the overall effect. Blanchar portrays a pastor in the Swiss Alps. He finds Michele, a little blind girl, and brings her up. She grows up to be a beautiful woman and Blanchar is in love with her without admitting it. Complications arise when his son, Jean Desailly, comes home. Finally, the girl is operated on and can see again, but this is her undoing. Loving Jean and loved by Pierre, she commits suicide.

Running time, 105 minutes. General audience classification. Set for September release.

"Behind Locked Doors"

(Eagle-Lion)

WITH considerable attention being focused at present on the abuses and neglects of many mental institutions, Eagle-Lion's "Behind Locked Doors" has a timeliness that's all to its exploitation favor. Unpretentiously made, the film has an engrossing quality. Heading the cast are Lucille Bremer and Richard Carlson. Eugene Ling produced and Oscar Boetticher directed.

Basically, it is a story of a newspaperwoman and a private detective seeking to uncover the hideout of a renegade judge wanted by the police. Miss Bremer, as the journalist, has Carlson, the detective, committed to a mental institution where she suspects the judge is hiding. The cruelties of one attendant and the sympathetic actions of another; the barred windows and padded rooms; the actions of the criminally insane, and finally, an expose of the whole operation constitute the balance of the story.

In bringing the story by Malvin Wald and the screenplay by Wald and Ling to the screen, Boetticher has maintained the element of suspense throughout. Over the whole story there hangs an eerie and sinister air as the tortures and abuses by the sanitarium personnel are shown.

Running time, 61 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

Canadian B.O. Scales In Downward Trend

OTTAWA, Sept. 6. — Theatre admission prices declined slightly between June and July, according to figures released by the Prices Branch of the Canadian Government.

This drop is seen stemming from the fact that Quebec, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick have so far not added any provincial tax to replace the removal of the Federal admission tax.

2 Join Ill. Allied Combine

CHICAGO, Sept. 6.—The Montclare Theatre, this city, and the Elm, Elmwood Park, Ill., owned by B. Charuhas, a director of Allied Theatres of Illinois, have joined Allied's buying and booking organization, Jack Kirsch, president, announces.

Can't Make Up His Mind

MANILLA, I.A., Sept. 6.—Last month L. R. Howarth sold the Manilla Theatre to M. H. Noragon. This month Howarth is buying it back.

Building Plans for Three Dixie Houses

NASHVILLE, Sept. 6.—Plans for the construction of three Southern houses are underway. In Atlanta, Ga., Posner Enterprises plans a combined theatre and store building. Another house is planned at Madison, Ga., with F. Arthur Hazard the architect.

In New Orleans, Joy Theatres, Inc., has awarded a contract for a 1,000-seat house in Bayville, La., at an estimated cost of \$100,000.

New Sioux City Drive-In

SIoux CITY, Ia., Sept. 6. — Construction will begin soon on a \$225,000 drive-in theatre at Riverside Park, Roy M. Warfield announces. With a capacity of 1,000 autos, it will be the city's second drive-in.



UNITED

Flight Facts



Want a box seat for the greatest show on earth—in Technicolor? I'm just the man who can arrange it. I'm the pilot of "the Hollywood," United Air Lines' famous onestop flight from New York to Los Angeles in 11 hours and 10 minutes.



We leave New York at 12 noon. We arrive in Los Angeles at 8:10 P.M. But we time our flight to arrive over the Grand Canyon just at sunset—that's the great Technicolor Show I mentioned! You see Hoover Dam and the Southwest desert country too. It's really beautiful.



Of course we have many luxurious attractions on "the Hollywood." Like air conditioning. A spacious cabin, so you can stroll around. A lounge, with perfect observation. Deep soft seats. Delicious meals.



But my special pride and joy is the sunset show in Technicolor!

E. L. Remelin

United Air Lines Pilot on

"the Hollywood"

MITCHELL MAY, Jr.
CO., INC.
INSURANCE

Specializing
in requirements of the
Motion Picture Industry

75 Maiden Lane, New York
510 W. 6th St., Los Angeles

PUZZLE-BANK

For Any Theatre of
Any Size Anywhere

Enterprise House, Inc., 198 Broadway
New York City Digby 9-1278

COMING YOUR WAY.. **'Kaye DAY'**



*...they've got the
hottest men in
music beating
out the rhythm
with'm....!*

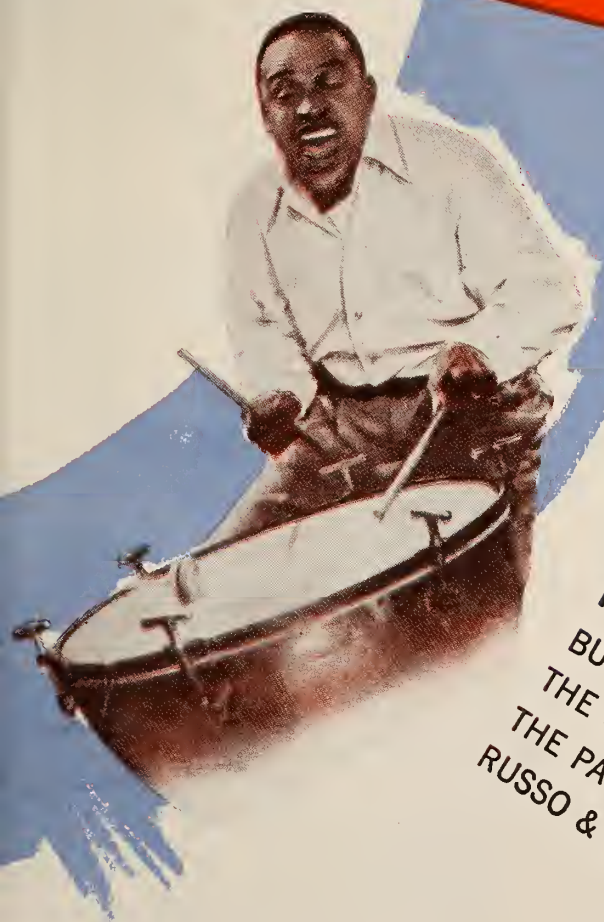
'Kaye DAY' & PAY DAY!

**PRE-SOLD by Full Page,
Full Color National Magazine and
Newspaper Campaign Reaching
Over 150,000,000 Readers!**

THE NATIONAL LAUGH HOLIDAY !



Samuel Goldwyn
PRESENTS
DANNY KAYE • VIRGINIA MAYO
IN
"A Song Is Born"
COLOR BY **TECHNICOLOR**
WITH **HUGH HERBERT**



BENNY GOODMAN
TOMMY DORSEY
LOUIS ARMSTRONG
LIONEL HAMPTON
CHARLIE BARNET
MEL POWELL
BUCK & BUBBLES
THE GOLDEN GATE QUARTET
THE PAGE CAVANAUGH TRIO
RUSSO & THE SAMBA KINGS

Directed by
HOWARD HAWKS

Released thru RKO RADIO PICTURES, INC.

Isn't it Romantic?

Hear!
"Miss Julie July"

Hear!
"Wond' rin' When"

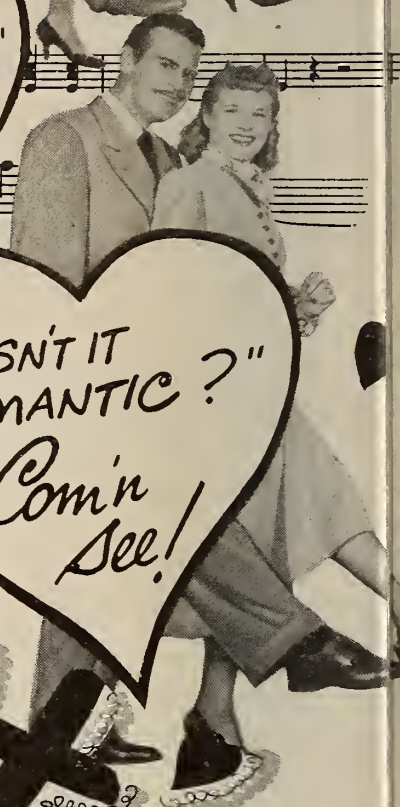
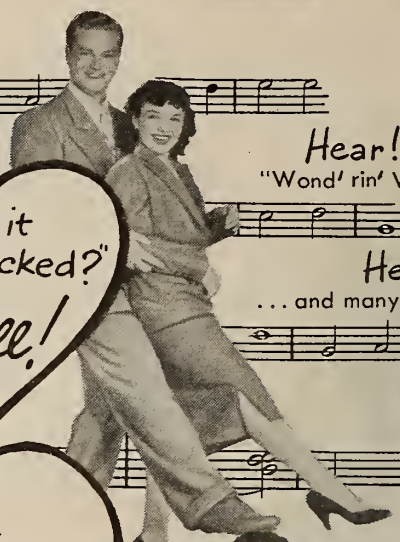
Hear!
"Isn't It Romantic?"

Hear!
... and many merry ones

"Isn't it Song-Packed?"
Yesiree!

"Isn't it Fun-Jammed?"
Filled with Glee!

"ISN'T IT ROMANTIC?"
Comin' See!



Starring
VERONICA LAKE
Now everybody'll know that V.L. stands for "Violent Love!"
MONA FREEMAN
She wrote all those sizzling love letters in "Dear Ruth!"
BILLY DE WOLFE
Comedy sensation of "Dear Ruth" and "Blue Skies!"
MARY HATCHER
The girl who put the spice of life into "Variety Girl!"
with
ROLAND CULVER • **PATRIC KNOWLES**
Produced by **RICHARD WEBB** and **PEARL BAILEY**
Directed by **DANIEL LARE** • **NORMAN Z. McLEOD**

It Sings With Love;
You Get It Soon—
Romantic As
A Harvest Moon
From
Paramount

Billy ("Blue Skies") De Wolfe lives up to his name ... giving three lovely girls a whirl!

Help Promote
YOUTH MONTH—
Saluting Young America

Accurate
Concise
and
Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

FIRST
IN
FILM
NEWS

VOLUME 34, NO. 48

NEW YORK, U.S.A., WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1948

TEN CENTS

Depinet Seen Elected RKO Head Today

Board Meeting Here; Floyd Odium May Resign

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 7.—Election of Ned E. Depinet to the presidency of RKO is expected in the very near future and may take place at a special meeting of the company's board of directors, which is scheduled to be held in New York tomorrow. The meeting originally was scheduled for today but was postponed.

Depinet, who has been executive vice-president of RKO, would succeed N. Peter Rathvon, who tendered his resignation as RKO president on July 23.

Indications are that Floyd B. Odium, head of Atlas Corp., which sold its controlling stock interest in RKO to Howard Hughes last June, may tender his resignation as chairman of the RKO board at either tomorrow's meeting or at a subsequent one to be held in the near future.

Reports linking Rathvon and Odium
(Continued on page 4)

62½¢ Minimum for Mass. Theatre Help

BOSTON, Sept. 7.—The Massachusetts Wage Commission has approved the highest minimum wage schedule ever set in the Commonwealth, affecting more than 10,000 employees of theatre, amusement and recreation occupations. Effective as a directive on Oct. 1, and becoming mandatory next New Year's Day, the new wage sched-

(Continued on page 4)

Hollister to Leave RKO Publicity Post

Paul Hollister has resigned as national publicity director and Eastern studio representative of RKO Radio to engage in public relations work, according to an announcement made yesterday by Ned E. Depinet, executive vice-president of RKO. Neither post will be filled, Perry Lieber continuing as studio publicity director in Hollywood and Rutgers Neilson as New York publicity manager.

Hollister joined RKO Radio on Feb. 8, 1946, going to the company from a Columbia Broadcasting vice-presidency. He was publicity vice-president of R. H. Macy Co. for eight years.

Score Rank Tribunal Bid

LONDON, Sept. 7.—Cinematograph Exhibitor's general purposes committee today expressed unqualified objection to J. Arthur Rank's proposal for a tribunal to review British distributor-exhibitor differences. Viewing the proposal as implying reviewal of contract terms after pictures have been screened, the committee took the stand that the trade practice hitherto prevailing has been entirely satisfactory. Under it the respective parties to a film contract are deemed qualified to negotiate an assumedly equitable deal prior to screenings.

Other proposals by Rank along similar lines were opposed by the

(Continued on page 5)

2 Milwaukee Houses To St. Cloud Amuse.

MILWAUKEE, Sept. 7.—The St. Cloud Amusement Corp. of New Jersey and Washington, D. C., was revealed today as the purchaser of the Tower and Oriental theatres here, formerly operated by Warners.

Theatres were owned by the Annenberg Estate of Philadelphia and had been operated by Warners under a management contract which expired on Aug. 31. Harvey B. Newins is president of St. Cloud and Frank Fowler is general manager.

It had been reported earlier that Ted R. Gamble might have been the purchaser. A spokesman for Gamble said today that while he is interested

(Continued on page 4)

Holiday Raises NY 1st-Run Grosses; 3 Records Claimed

Prosperity definitely was in evidence throughout almost the entire New York first-run belt over the holiday weekend with grosses reportedly hitting record levels at three situations.

"Sorry, Wrong Number," with Carmen Cavallero on stage at the Paramount, is on its way to a first week's take of \$120,000, unusually high. The Roxy, too, has \$120,000 in view for a second week of "That Lady in Ermine" and a stage show, including Frances Langford, Jon Hall, Jerry Colonna and an ice revue. The State also is taking a full share of top money with "Loves of Carmen" expected

(Continued on page 5)

List Large Para. Holdings in DuMont

WASHINGTON, Sept. 7.—Paramount Pictures is the second largest holder of Allen B. DuMont class A common, in addition to owning all of the class B common, according to a report submitted to the Federal Communications Commission.

The report is required in connection with the FCC's hearings to determine whether Paramount controls DuMont.

Paramount nominee Clarence W. Alexander was listed with 38,200 shares, second to the 81,800 shares held by Allen B. DuMont. FCC examiner Jack Blume said that holdings of another Paramount nominee bring

(Continued on page 4)

US Willing to Talk Decree, Clark Admits

But Doubts Companies Would Submit Proposals

WASHINGTON, Sept. 7.—U. S. Attorney General Tom Clark admitted today that he had told inquiring defense attorneys in the Paramount anti-trust case that the Government was willing to discuss a consent decree, but added that he did not think the distributor defendants would ever get around to submitting a proposal.

"I think it's just talk," he declared. "We construe the U. S. Supreme Court's decision directly opposite from the attorneys for the motion picture companies. They would have to reverse their entire thinking to make a proposal which we would consider. I don't believe they are going to submit a proposal."

The Attorney General, who personally opened the Government's case in
(Continued on page 4)

Al Lichtman Leaves M-G-M Studio Post

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 7.—Al Lichtman today announced the weekend settlement of his Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer studio contract effective immediately. Lichtman became an M-G-M executive in 1935, after relinquishing the presidency of United Artists. He was assistant to Nicholas Schenck in New York until 1937, when he transferred to the studio, where he since has been regarded as Schenck's liaison. Terms of the settlement were undisclosed.

Lichtman's resignation is the second of an M-G-M top studio executive since Dore Schary became production head recently, Sam Katz having resigned a few weeks ago.

\$130,030 Is Cinecolor Profit for 32 Weeks

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 7.—Taking cognizance of a loss of \$254,274 from operations of Film Classics, unaudited consolidated net profit of \$130,030 before taxes for the 32 weeks ended last June 5 is reported by Cinecolor to its stockholders. The interim report also disclosed that gross sales increased more than 25 per cent over the first nine months of 1947.

Anglo-American Amity Bid Stirs U. K. Hopes

LONDON, Sept. 7.—A lengthy examination of the U.K.-U.S. film situation here was made by the London Times in a leading article today, embodying the inferential demand that the British and American sides get together. It is believed in industry circles that the article was "inspired by leading politicians who are anxious to end the present deadlock."

The article states in part: "The British government to their disadvantage are limiting unreasonably their ability to produce films here. The Americans are prepared to lose money during the dollar crisis so long as their market is preserved, but the 45 per cent quota cuts across this. If the quota is progressively raised the

(Continued on page 5)

China Raises Duties From \$250 to \$1,200

China has increased its customs duty on the importation of films from \$250 to approximately \$1,200 per feature, it was disclosed here yesterday by John G. McCarthy, associate managing director of the international division of the Motion Picture Association of America.

McCarthy was also advised that U. S. film companies have suspended further shipments to China pending clarification of the situation.

An immediate protest was lodged with the U. S. State Department, which has requested conferences with Chinese authorities.

Seek Building Code Waiver for Popcorn

ALBANY, N. Y., Sept. 7.—The New York State Board of Standards and Appeals is expected to adopt amendments suggested by exhibitors to the section of the proposed revised state building code relating to the operation of popcorn machines in theatres.

The provision against which exhibitors objected at a hearing in New York last month bans the use "of any combustible or volatile fluid." Exhibitors have meanwhile advanced the proposition that a line of demarcation be drawn—this barring fluids "with a flash point less than 400." Gasoline, kerosene and other such fluids have a flash point under 400 and are believed to be potentially dangerous to public safety. Over 400 is considered safe.

Organized exhibitors maintain that the popcorn ban as now written might be very costly. New York City's ultra-strict code is said to have no provision banning the use of any combustible or volatile fluid, it is pointed out.

Revision on Building Code Compliance Is Sought

ALBANY, N. Y., Sept. 7.—Holding in a brief filed with the State Board of Standards and Appeals that "there is some confusion" among exhibitors as to how strict two-year limitation on a certificate of compliance would operate practically under the proposed new state building code, Leonard Rosenthal, attorney for Smalley Theatres, has appealed to the board for revision in the language of the appropriate section of the proposed code. He also sought revisions in the definition of the word "stage."

Harry Hellman, 65, Partner of Fabian

ALBANY, N. Y., Sept. 7.—Harry Hellman, theatre owner, died today at the age of 65 at Albany Hospital after a brief illness. He was celebrating his 40th anniversary in show business.

Hellman opened his first film theatre in Albany in 1908. He was a pioneer in the drive-in theatre field and was interested with Fabian Theatres in four drive-ins, two located in Albany, one in Binghamton and one in Philadelphia. He also owned the Paramount and Royal in Albany and the Palace in Troy. Hellman is survived by the widow, Nettie Brower Hellman and a son, Neil. The funeral will be held tomorrow from Silberg's Funeral Home and services will be at Mount Hebron Cemetery, Long Island.

S. T. Manghon, Exhibitor

ATLANTA, Sept. 7.—S. T. Manghon, theatre owner in Patterson and Scriven, Georgia, passed away at his home in Patterson, last Friday.

William H. Rice

William Herbert Rice, 71, veteran screenplay writer, died here at the weekend in Flushing Hospital of uremic poisoning.

Personal Mention

MAURICE A. BERGMAN, Universal-International Eastern advertising - publicity director, and **CHARLES SIMONELLI**, Eastern exploitation manager, have returned to New York from Cincinnati.

DARRYL F. ZANUCK, production vice-president for 20th Century-Fox, planned out of New York yesterday for Hollywood, after a six-week trip through Italy and France. He was accompanied by Mrs. ZANUCK and their daughter, SUSAN.

DON STEINKAMP of the French Lick Amusement Co., French Lick, Ind., is accompanying his father to the Mayo Clinic where the latter is undergoing observation.

FRED CURD, Paramount booker in Memphis, has become RKO office manager in that city, replacing **GLENN CALVERT**, who has been promoted to salesman.

M. A. LIGHTMAN, SR., Malco Theatres president, is serving on the bridge committee of the Bear Creek Lake Bridge Tournament Sept. 24-26 at Marianna, Ark.

DAVID SKVIRSKY, 20th-Fox booker-salesman in Boston, has returned from a leave of absence spent in Europe. He will report to the New Haven office as a salesman.

WAYNE HARTMAN has been named sales manager in charge of the industrial department for Academy Film Service, Cleveland, by **GILBERT LEF-TON**, president.

JULES LAPIDUS, Warner Eastern and Canadian division sales manager, left here yesterday for Cleveland and Pittsburgh.

AL HORWITS, U-I Eastern publicity manager, and **PHIL GERARD**, publicist, are in Philadelphia from New York.

ALEX SCHIMEL, U-I salesman, was in New York last weekend from Cleveland.

Matthew Rapf to Form Own Company

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 7.—Matthew Rapf, writer-producer, plans to form his own independent film company. Its first picture will be "Silhouette," of which he is the author.

Rapf, who is a son of Harry Rapf, was formerly a scenarist at the M-G-M studio. He and Gerald Briskin, son of Samuel J. Briskin, president of Liberty Films, recently produced "The Adventures of Gallant Bess."

'True Name Law' Due

BOSTON, Sept. 7.—The Massachusetts "True Name Law" will go into effect on Thursday. All actors, film and otherwise, will have to register their true names with the Department of Public Safety. Failure to comply may mean a fine of \$100.

FREDERICK BRISSON of Independent Artists is due here today from the Coast.

STEPHEN CRANE, producer; **CORNEL WILDE**, and his wife and **NORMA SHEARER**, her children and her husband, **MARTIN ARROUGE**, are among passengers who will sail for Europe today on the *SS Queen Elizabeth*. Among arrivals when the ship docked here yesterday were **RITA HAYWORTH**, **JACK BUCHANAN** and **MRS. ALFRED HITCHCOCK**.

J. RAYMOND BELL, manager of the Donahue and Coe Washington branch, has been appointed chairman of the publicity advisory committee for the economic mobilization course for reserve officers.

FRANK J. ALFORD, assistant treasurer of the Motion Picture Export Association, and **MRS. ALFORD** became parents of a second son, born on Labor Day at the Lenox Hill Hospital here.

JOHN P. BYRNE, M-G-M Eastern sales manager, will move his headquarters to the home office building in a few days from the New York exchange.

JOHN A. SCHWALM, manager of the Northio Rialto Theatre in Hamilton, O., has returned home following an eye operation at Christ Hospital, Cincinnati.

GEORGE MANN, co-owner of Redwood Theatres Circuit, San Francisco, has purchased a newspaper in Fort Bragg. He writes a column entitled "From Mann to Man."

BILL PORTER, head of Allied Artists-Monogram West Coast contract department, has returned to the Coast from a tour of Midwest exchanges.

JOSEPH HARRIS, Realart treasurer, has returned to New York from a month's trip to Europe.

ARTHUR GREENBLATT left the Coast yesterday by plane for New York.

'IA', 200 Detroit Theatres Stalemated

DETROIT, Sept. 7.—About 200 local theatres are operating without a contract with the IATSE covering projectionists as the result of failure to arrive at settlement on wage increases in a preliminary conference.

Pact Talks Continue

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 7.—Independent producers and negotiators for the American Federation of Musicians will hold another session tomorrow to negotiate a contract to replace the pact which expired last month.

House Changes Hands

HEBRON, Neb., Sept. 7.—E. H. Kassebaum, formerly of Hebron, has purchased the Hebron Theatre from Clarence Wright. Change was effective Sunday.

Newsreel Parade

CHINA, France, Palestine, Canada and the Belgian Congo provide backgrounds for newsreel highlights in current issues. Items in a different vein cover sports, fashions and human interest. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 72—Kravchenko tells about Red teacher case. World's smallest republic run by boys and girls. Automatic garage. New Chinese. National AAU long distance swim m

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 202—Report from China. Israel builds as truce quiets Palestine. Good news for car owners. Soccer. Something new in headgear.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 5—UN moves to France. School daze—twirlers learn tricks with sticks. Aid for Greece. Novelty in fashion. China fights inflation.

UNIVERSAL NEWS, No. 176—China: inflation rampant. News in brief: Gen. Eisenhower dedicates hospital; Belgium festival; baby parade; ax-chopping championship. Three-year-old swimmer. Mountbatten opens Canadian exposition.

WARNER PATHE NEWS, No. 7—China's worst inflation. French government crisis. Mountbatten in Canada. Belgium Congo volcano. Railroad news, junior grade. Fall evening gowns. Vienna wrestling.

Ruder and Finn Are Promotion Partners

William Ruder has resigned from Samuel Goldwyn Productions to form his own publicity-exploitation organization in association with David Finn, with headquarters at the Hotel Lombardy, New York. Ruder had been associated with Lynn Farnol, at Goldwyn since 1941, and for the past several years has been head of exploitation.

The new organization will have field representatives in 30 key cities. Among clients represented by Ruder and Finn are Perry Como, Pioneer Pictures, Pioneer Telefilms and Tele-spots, Inc.

To Honor Bromhead, Co-Founder of G. B.

LONDON, Sept. 7.—A. C. Bromhead, co-founder on Sept. 13, 1898, of the Gaumont Company, which afterwards operated as Gaumont-British, will be guest of honor at a luncheon celebration here on Monday of the 50th anniversary of the company's founding. Old associates of Col. Bromhead will give the luncheon.

May Move 'Caravan' To Indianapolis

PHILADELPHIA Sept. 7.—Leaders of Allied States will meet here tomorrow and Thursday to consider transferring the headquarters of the organization's product "Caravan" from this city to Indianapolis. They will also probably decide whether there will be a board meeting this month.

Bowes Left \$3,641,112

The late Major Edward J. Bowes left a gross estate of \$3,641,112, it was disclosed in papers filed in Surrogate's Court here at the weekend. The estate shrunk to a net of \$648,304 after 61 separate charitable bequests. The papers revealed he left \$2,874,765 to St. Patrick's Cathedral here.

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WAS IT JUST A SUMMER ROMANCE?

Don't worry, Miss Box-Office. Your sugar daddy Leo will love you in December as he did in May. He's just had another shot of Vitamin M-G-M and he's rarin' to go. Look what's coming from your all-year-'round Santa Claus:

GREER GARSON
WALTER PIDGEON in
"JULIA MISBEHAVES"
PETER LAWFORD, ELIZABETH TAYLOR
CESAR ROMERO, Lucile Watson, Nigel
Bruce, Mary Boland, Reginald Owen

★ ★ ★

The Enterprise Studios present
DANA ANDREWS, LILLI PALMER
and **LOUIS JOURDAN** in
"NO MINOR VICES"
with Jane Wyatt

★ ★ ★

"THE SECRET LAND" (Technical)
Starring
MEN AND SHIPS
Of The U. S. NAVY
Narration By
Comdr. **ROBERT MONTGOMERY, U.S.N.R.**
LI. ROBERT TAYLOR, U.S.N.R.
LI. VAN HEFLIN, A.A.F. (Ret.)

★ ★ ★

"HILLS OF HOME" (Technical)
Starring
EDMUND-GWENN
DONALD CRISP, TOM DRAKE
JANET LEIGH and LASSIE

Alexandre Dumas'
"THE THREE MUSKETEERS" (Technical)
Starring
LANA TURNER, GENE KELLY
JUNE ALLYSON, VAN HEFLIN
ANGELA LANSBURY
Frank Morgan, Vincent Price, Keenan
Wynn, John Sutton, Gig Young

★ ★ ★

"ACT OF VIOLENCE"
Starring
VAN HEFLIN, ROBERT RYAN
with Janet Leigh, Mary Astar
Phyllis Thaxter

★ ★ ★

FRANK SINATRA, KATHRYN GRAYSON
in "THE KISSING BANDIT" (Technical)
J. Carrol Naish, Mildred Natwick
Mikhail Rasumny, Billy Gilbert
Sana Osato with Dance Specialties By
Ricarda Mantalban, Ann Miller, Cyd Charisse

★ ★ ★

John Fard's
"3 GODFATHERS" (Technical)
Presented by John Fard & Merian C. Cooper
Starring
JOHN WAYNE, PEDRO ARMENDARIZ
And Introducing **HARRY CAREY, Jr.**
with Ward Bond, Mae Marsh
Jane Darwell, Ben Johnsen

ROBERT TAYLOR
AVA GARDNER
CHARLES LAUGHTON
VINCENT PRICE
JOHN HODIAK in
"THE BRIBE"

★ ★ ★

"LITTLE WOMEN" (Technical)
Starring
JUNE ALLYSON, PETER LAWFORD
MARGARET O'BRIEN, ELIZABETH TAYLOR
JANET LEIGH, ROSSANO BRAZZI
MARY ASTOR with
Lucile Watson, C. Aubrey Smith

★ ★ ★

CLARK GABLE, WALTER PIDGEON
VAN JOHNSON, BRIAN DONLEVY
Charles Bickford, John Hodiak
Edward Arnold in
"COMMAND DECISION"

★ ★ ★

"SUN IN THE MORNING"
(Technical) Starring
JEANETTE MACDONALD
LLOYD NOLAN, CLAUDE JARMAN, Jr.
and **LASSIE**
with Lewis Stone, Percy Kilbride

"WORDS AND MUSIC" (Technical)
Starring
MICKEY ROONEY, JUDY GARLAND
GENE KELLY, JUNE ALLYSON
PERRY COMO, ANN SOTHERN
with Tom Drake, Cyd Charisse, Betty
Garrett, Lena Horne, Janet Leigh, Marshall
Thompson, Mel Tormé, Vera-Ellen

★ ★ ★

SPENCER TRACY, DEBORAH KERR
in "EDWARD, MY SON" with Ian Hunter

★ ★ ★

JOHN GARFIELD in
The Roberts Production
"FORCE OF EVIL"
An Enterprise Picture
with Thomas Gomez and Marie Windsor
And Introducing **BEATRICE PEARSON**

★ ★ ★

FRED ASTAIRE, GINGER ROGERS in
"THE BARKLEYS OF BROADWAY"
(Technical)

with Oscar Levant, Billie Burke
Gail Rabbins, Jacques Francais

★ ★ ★

GENE KELLY, ESTHER WILLIAMS
FRANK SINATRA in
"TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALL GAME"
(Technical)
with Betty Garrett
Jules Munshin, Edward Arnold



WHEN LEO KISSES MISS BOX-OFFICE SHE STAYS KISSED!

(Help Promote YOUTH MONTH—Saluting Young America!)

Approve New Board For Mich. Allied

DETROIT, Sept. 7.—Charles W. Snyder, executive secretary of Allied Theatres of Michigan, has proposed a new plan for the election of officers for the ATM's board, and it has been approved unanimously.

His plan consists of having an officer represent each Congressional district of Michigan, an alternate and three delegates-at-large. There are 17 Congressional districts in the state. These officers in turn would elect a president and vice-president. The board now consists of 15 members, five of which are replaced each year.

The new plan, Snyder said, will enable each member to better acquaint himself with legislators from his district and to give them full particulars on any legislation concerning the industry. Also, instead of having any group from one area holding positions on the board, all areas would be equally represented.

Depinet

(Continued from page 1)

lum with the formation of an independent production company could not be confirmed here.

Depinet's initial election to the RKO presidency is expected to be for the period between the present and the holding of a regular election of officers by a reconstituted RKO board, at which time it is expected he would be reelected. The board will be reconstituted on Oct. 18 when a meeting of RKO stockholders is scheduled to be held. Regular election of officers by the new board would follow.

Replaces Rathvon on AMPP Board

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 7.—Leon Goldberg, RKO studio manager, today was elected to the board of directors of the Association of Motion Picture Producers, replacing N. Peter Rathvon as RKO representative on the board.



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**AMERICAN
AIRLINES**

Car Heaters for Year 'Round Drive-ins

Memphis, Sept. 7.—While it appears drive-in theatres are staying open a little longer each year, it looks as though many will be a year-round proposition, with exhibitors in this area considering the possibilities of installing individual in-a-car heaters during the frosty season.

Ainsworth, Berger, Myers at ITO Meet

COLUMBUS, O., Sept. 7.—Speakers at the convention of the Independent Theatre Owners of Ohio, to be held at the Deshler-Wallick Hotel here on Sept. 14-15, will include William Ainsworth, president of national Allied; Abram F. Myers, national Allied counsel; Benny Berger, president of North Central Allied; Trueman Rembusch, president of Allied of Indiana, who will discuss impact of television on theatres; H. M. Richey, exhibitor relations head of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, and David Palfreyman of the Motion Picture Association of America.

In addition, J. W. Spiselman, vice-president of Air Purification Service, will speak on "Advantages of Air Sterilization in the Theatre." Gov. Thomas J. Herbert and Dr. Clyde Hissong, chief Ohio film censor, have accepted invitations to attend the banquet to be held Tuesday.

P. J. Wood, ITO secretary, is expecting a large turnout at the special meeting for small-town exhibitors, an innovation this year. This meeting will be held on Monday, preceding the opening of the convention.

MGM's Seven Start Training Sept. 16

Training for the first seven M-G-M sales personnel selected for a training course will begin here Sept. 16, a delay of two days caused by the fact that William F. Rodgers, distribution vice-president, will not return from the Coast until that day.

Scheduled to arrive are Michael J. Ford, salesman, Chicago; Louis Formato, branch manager, Philadelphia; Philip F. Gravitz, office manager-head booker, New Haven; H. Russell Gaws, salesman, Oklahoma City; Louis Marks, salesman, Cleveland; Ansley B. Padgett, assistant branch manager, Atlanta; Louis J. Weber, Dallas salesman.

62 1/2-Cent Minimum

(Continued from page 1)

ule will give regular employees 62 1/2 cents an hour as a minimum, and "casual" employees 55c an hour.

The commission, because of complaints from theatre owners that ushers are a "special and transitory" type of worker, ruled that they will be considered casual employees.

Grossman in New Post

Henry Grossman has been named director of broadcast operations for Columbia Broadcasting, including television, AM and FM technical operations, by James M. Seward, CBS vice-president in charge of operations.

Milwaukee Houses

(Continued from page 1)

in expanding his theatre operations in the Midwest he has no connection whatever with the purchasers of the Tower and Oriental. The spokesman also denied another report that Gamble planned to dispose of his theatre holdings in the Pacific Northwest area to concentrate on the Midwest expansion. Gamble will retain his present holdings in Oregon, it was stated.

Warners Replacing Theatres In New Jersey and Mass.

A new Warner theatre is being built in Harrison, N. J., to replace the Lincoln in nearby Kearny, N. J., on which the Warner lease expired recently and was not renewed.

In addition, Warners is constructing a new theatre at Newburyport, Mass., to replace another on which the lease was not renewed recently. In both instances, the leases were not renewed for strictly business reasons and the replacements are being undertaken under the Federal Court ruling in the industry anti-trust case permitting defendants to replace theatres which have been relinquished or lost under specified conditions.

Para-DuMont

(Continued from page 1)

the company's class A ownership up over 42,000.

Among other holders are Leo Spitz, 16,310 shares and Abe Lastfogel, 11,885.

Meanwhile, it was revealed that a final decision in FCC proceedings on San Francisco television applications, including those from Paramount and 20th Century-Fox, may be snarled by an action filed here Thursday by Ed Pauley's Television California, which seeks to require the FCC to include a San Francisco television application by Don Lee Broadcasting Co. in the general hearings in which Pauley, Paramount, CBS, Fox, and independent station KROW are vying for two open channels. This would mean that another channel would be available in the consolidated proceedings, since one has been tentatively set aside for Don Lee.

US Willing

(Continued from page 1)

the Supreme Court Paramount proceedings was emphatic in declaring that no formal talks have been held with defense company attorneys, and no proposal of any kind has as yet been submitted to the Government.

"All they did was ask me if I'd talk a consent decree," Clark stated. "I said yes. If they want to talk, we'd be bull-headed to refuse. But I'm certainly not saying I'd agree to whatever they submit."

The Attorney General would not say who had approached him on behalf of the defendants, but one industry source revealed that it was former Secretary of State James F. Byrnes, now representing 20th Century-Fox.

If a proposal is submitted, Clark said, he will turn it over to his anti-trust experts, including Robert L. Wright, for advice, then make a decision on that basis.

Albee on Split Policy

CINCINNATI, Sept. 7.—The 3,300-seat Albee, flagship of the local RKO chain, playing straight films, will inaugurate a stage show and film policy beginning Sept. 30.

Phila. Prepares for Youth Fete Sept. 2

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 7.—Gael Sullivan, executive director of Theatre Owners of America, and Lewen Pizzo, president of United Motion Picture Theatre Owners of Eastern Pennsylvania, Southern New Jersey and Delaware, were principal speakers today at a special meeting held at the office of Mayor Bernard Samuel to discuss ways and means of promoting Youth Month. Some 100 of Philadelphia's leading citizens were invited to the meeting of which Judge Noche S. Winnet was general chairman.

Today's session served as a springboard for staging the Youth Month celebration to be held here on Sept. 25. It will start with a mammoth youth parade. Mayor Samuel and his committee of 100 will be on hand while mayors of neighboring cities and theatre owners and managers from Eastern Pennsylvania, Southern New Jersey and Delaware will be guests.

5,000 Parade Here In 'Salute to Youth'

With Eagle-Lion's 17-year-old starlet Lois Butler as grand marshal of a parade of some 5,000 children, the first New York City "Salute to Youth" ceremony was held here yesterday morning at the Skouras Academy of Music Theatre.

In addition to a showing of Eagle-Lion's "Mickey," which stars Miss Butler, the children were greeted by John M. Cannella, Commissioner of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity, who represented Mayor O'Dwyer; Lou Little, Columbia University football coach, and Bud Collyer, radio's "Superman." Mel Allen, sportscaster, was master of ceremonies.

Tarwater Is Named E-L Atlanta Chief

ATLANTA, Sept. 7.—Norman J. Calquhoun, branch manager of Eagle-Lion, has resigned from the company, and district manager Grover Parsons has named Bob Tarwater, former Alabama sales representative, to succeed.

Lewis with McCarey

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 7.—Sinclair Lewis and producer-director Leo McCarey's Rainbow Productions have reached an agreement under which the novelist will work on a screen story idea suggested by McCarey, according to announcement by Earl Rettig, secretary-treasurer for Rainbow. The yarn may serve as the vehicle for McCarey's last for RKO Radio release.

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New York Grosses

(Continued from page 1)

to finish its initial week with \$70,000. The Paramount, Roxy and State all claim weekend records.

"Ruthless" is fairly substantial in its first week at the Gotham where \$16,500 is indicated for a first week. "Larceny" appears headed for about \$22,000, which meets requirements in a first week at the Winter Garden. "Sofia" is big at the Rialto with a relatively hefty \$12,000 apparent for first week.

Second week of "Rope" at the Globe is likely to bring in a huge \$56,000. "Date with Judy" is still doing splendidly at the Music Hall, where it is supported by a stage show, and where a fifth week's income is likely to hit \$140,000.

At the Criterion, "Tap Roots" is faring well enough with \$28,000 seen for a second week. "Two Guys from Texas" with a give-away show on stage should give the Strand a healthy \$42,000 in a second week. "Velvet Touch" probably will take in a moderate \$24,000 in a second week at the Rivoli. "Babe Ruth Story" at the Astor is fair at \$19,000 for a sixth week.

"Pitfall" with Dick Powell on stage at the Capitol is good in its third and final week, estimated at \$67,000, it will be followed by "Luxury Liner" tomorrow. "Race Street" should conclude its third week at the Mayfair with \$17,500, which is good enough.

Upstate Now Has 28

ALBANY, N. Y., Sept. 7.—Upstate Theatres, Inc., buying-booking unit here, has three new houses: William Kennedy's Lyric, at Rouses Point; Lyceum, at Champlain Lake, and the Chezy. This makes 28 theatres for the group in New York and Vermont. Leonard Rosenthal is Upstate's counsel and film-buying adviser.

Opens Rural Theatre

HUNTSVILLE, Ala., Sept. 7.—"Five Points," a 200-seater, has been opened by Younger Ellis at a road junction five miles from Hazel Green as an experiment in the operation of a strictly rural house. If the theatre proves profitable, he plans other similar houses in Madison County.

Nestler Buys Theatre

Harry Nestler, formerly associated with the Interboro Circuit here, has purchased the Florence Theatre property in Florence, N. J., under a deal arranged by Berk and Krumgold, theatre realtors. Martin Fishbein has been operating the Florence for the past five years.

Improve GE Video Outlet

SCHENECTADY, N. Y., Sept. 7.—General Electric has scheduled a mobile video unit for picture and voice pickups outside the studio, three new studio cameras of the Orthicon type, two new Kinescope cameras for televising films and a complete new transmitter at the main Helderberg station for its video station WRGB.

Navy Contract to DeVry

CHICAGO, Sept. 7.—DeVry Corp. here has been awarded a \$1,000,000 contract by the U. S. Navy for 16mm. projectors in what is believed to be the largest single peace-time order ever placed for equipment of this type. Another contract from the U. S. Signal Corps is for 35mm. projectors.

Reviews

"Sealed Verdict"

(Paramount)

RAY MILLAND shares the principal roles here with an alluring newcomer to the American screen, Florence Marly, formerly a star in her native Czechoslovakia. Her debut in "Sealed Verdict," a serious drama focussing on the nagging conscience of a U. S. prosecutor of Nazi war criminals, is suggestive of exploitation possibilities. However, it is Milland's picture, and he handles with characteristic competence the role of the prosecutor in Germany of one of Hitler's lesser generals, a Junker whose alleged atrocities are without documentary evidence but whose doom is sealed by virtue of Milland's eloquence as a prosecuting attorney. After the prisoner, played with icy rigidity by John Hoyt, is sentenced, Milland's conscience awakens within him misgivings and doubts as to whether the condemned general really is guilty.

Attracted by the beauty of the chief defense witness, an aristocratic French girl (Miss Marley) who, meanwhile, is wanted in France on charges of collaborating with the enemy, Milland joins with her in endeavoring to unearth evidence bearing on Hoyt's case. The climactic outcome carries an element of mild surprise, but the story leans from time to time on coincidences and implausibilities and is unrelieved by humor. However, there is compensation in the suspense generated in the screenplay by Jonathan Latimer, based on a novel by Lionel Shapiro, and the overall effect is favorable.

Supporting roles are well performed by Broderick Crawford, John Ridgely, Ludwig Donath, Paul Lees, Celia Lovsky, and others. Lewis Allen's direction is smooth. Exterior scenes for this Robert Fellows production were filmed in Europe.

Running time, 83 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Nov. 5.

CHARLES L. FRANKE

"In This Corner"

(Eagle-Lion)

ANOTHER excursion into the world of pugilism is made in Eagle-Lion's "In This Corner." The film is briskly paced and has adequate story and production values. Scott Brady handles the top assignment as a Navy veteran who wants to become a champion fighter.

Brady at first is handicapped by a fear of using his right hand because in the Navy he accidentally killed a man with that hand. After he overcomes his fears, he appears to be a good boxer. His girl, played by Anabel Shaw, doesn't want him to fight but finally she becomes reconciled. The young fighter is sponsored by a crooked fight promoter but when Brady realizes it he breaks with him. While working out for his big fight, he hits his opponent and is afraid he has killed him. However, the fight promoter had fixed it to appear that way so Brady would lose the fight. The girl discovers the situation and in a tense climax convinces Brady that he didn't kill the man. Then he wins.

This is an Arc production which was produced by David I. Stephenson and directed by Charles F. Riesner. Burk Symon and Fred Niblo, Jr., wrote the screenplay.

Running time, 63 minutes. General audience classification. Set for September release.

May Produce Raw Stock in Mexico

MEXICO CITY, Sept. 7.—Increased financial stress resulting from the monetary devaluation which has raised prices as much as 50 per cent for raw stock and other film materials and equipment imported, has prompted leaders of the trade here to urgently consider plans for making raw stock in Mexico. Sponsors of the proposition contend it is entirely feasible because Mexico produces all raw materials necessary for film stock.

'Pearl' Cited as the Best

MEXICO CITY, Sept. 7.—"The Pearl" has been cited as the best Mexican picture of 1947 by the Mexican Academy of Cinematographic Arts and Sciences. Emilio Fernandez was named best director and Pedro Armendariz best male actor for their work in the film. Other awards went to Blanca Estela Pavon as best actress; Gabriel Figueroa, cameraman; Victor Manuel Mendoza, male support; Marga Lopez, female support.

Tenn. House Reopens

OLD HICKORY, Tenn., Sept. 7.—The Old Hickory, acquired by the Crescent Amusement Co. of Nashville from E. I. du Pont de Nemours, who operate a plant here, has been reopened after complete renovation.

N. Y. Rabbis Seek Shelving of 'Twist'

The New York Board of Rabbis disclosed yesterday that in a message cabled to Eric A. Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association of America, it requested that J. Arthur Rank's "Oliver Twist" be withheld from exhibition here. Johnston now is in Europe. It was said that objections to the film were based on an article in the press which complained that the Fagin character in the film represented the "worst caricature of a Jew ever to be depicted in an English-speaking movie."

An executive of Eagle-Lion, distributor here, said yesterday that release of the film has been temporarily deferred.

Theatre Attendance In Uruguay Rises

WASHINGTON, Sept. 7.—Attendance at Uruguayan theatres is still increasing, but U. S. films are getting keener competition from French, British, Argentine, Mexican and Spanish films, film chief Nathan D. Golden of the Commerce Department reports.

As of July 1, 1948, the report also says, there were 194 theatres in the country, with a total seating capacity of 109,635. Of these, 92 are in Montevideo, the other 102 in the interior.

Two U. S. Films Get Venice Films Awards

ROME, Sept. 7.—Two international awards of the Venice Film Festival went to the United States for "The Fugitive," directed by John Ford, and the "Louisiana Story" of Robert Flaherty. Grand prize winner of the ninth International Exposition of Cinematographic Art went to J. Arthur Rank's "Hamlet."

Top award for best musical score went to Max Steiner for "Treasure of the Sierra Madre." Sharing top honors among animated films were Walt Disney's "Melody Time," and the French film "Little Soldier."

Amity Bid

(Continued from page 1)

Americans will be squeezed out step by step. . . .

"The government's Finance Corporation added another source of alarm and irritation for the Americans," the article continues, holding that under it "British production tends to be encouraged even when it is likely to be unremunerative." The *Times* argues, however, that the genesis of British film legislation is "founded primarily on monopolistic devices of the Americans themselves here after securing an initial advantage largely due to the 1914 World War I preventing the showing of British films."

The newspaper concedes the "necessity for unfettered international film trade," but concludes that Motion Picture Association of America's proposals "don't point in the desired direction any more than those of the British government."

Informed circles here attach great importance to the article, which has provoked intense discussion. The hope is expressed almost universally that it will serve to open the door to further Anglo-American discussion.

Rank Tribunal Bid

(Continued from page 1)

CEA committee, which appointed a deputation of 10 to negotiate with Rank toward evolving a general basis of fair trading terms. Meanwhile, the committee has recommended that CEA members refuse new Rank terms until such negotiations end.

An informal meeting of independent exhibitors was summoned for tonight, meanwhile, to weigh Motion Picture Association of America president Eric A. Johnston's plan for "double bill selling" in Britain, and their support of Johnston is expected.

Astor in 16mm. Deal

Worldwide distribution rights to the 16mm. version of Sam Coslow's "Copacabana" have been acquired by Jacques Kopfstein, executive vice-president of Astor Pictures, from United Artists, distributor of the 35mm. version. Astor's release of the film will begin next May.

25-Cent FP-C Dividend

OTTAWA, Sept. 7.—Famous Players Canadian Corp. has declared a quarterly dividend of 25 cents per common share, being at the rate of \$1 per share per annum, for the quarter ending Sept. 30, payable on Sept. 25, to shareholders of record on Sept. 10.

British List 94 Films

British Information Services here has published a new catalogue of British official films, listing 94 subjects and a synopsis of each.

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'Dual Selling' Acclaimed by UK Exhibitors

Cite Johnston Pledge of Non-Increased Rentals

LONDON, Sept. 8.—Independent exhibitors, meeting here last night, enthusiastically acclaimed the proposed "dual selling" policy of U. S. film companies which was recently announced by Eric A. Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association of America. Speakers in varying degrees expressed gratification with Johnston's pledge assuring them of ample alternate programs with unincreased rentals.

Opinion also was hard that the new system which will prevent combining an American and a British picture on one program will fully settle which country's films make the most

(Continued on page 2)

SPG Parent Union Rejects Taft Oath

Membership of United Office and Professional Workers of America (CIO), parent union of the Screen Publicists Guild and the Screen Office and Professional Employees Guild, has voted 36,297 to 6,055 to continue the union's policy of not signing the non-Communist affidavits called for under the Taft-Hartley Law. The UOPWA administrative committee, which announced the results yesterday, said

(Continued on page 6)

Johnston May Visit Stalin, Says A. P.

Washington, Sept. 8.—Associated Press from London quotes a "reliable source" to the effect that Motion Picture Association of America president Eric Johnston will fly to Moscow from Paris, about Sept. 20, maybe to visit Josef Stalin.

The AP report links Johnston's trip with "rumors" from this city that Johnston may be offered a high U. S. Government post if Governor Dewey is elected President.

The MPAA here knows nothing about the report.

Ease Quota for Half Of UK Independents

London, Sept. 8.—More than one-half of Britain's independent theatres have been granted exemption from the 45 per cent quota law which becomes effective on Oct. 1, the Board of Trade disclosed today. The board said it had anticipated a large number of independent exhibitors would not be able to fulfill the new quota requirements.

US Film Firms Avert Argentine Walkout

Meetings yesterday of American film men in New York and Buenos Aires, which were linked by radio telephone, averted a walkout of some 1,000 employees of American companies in Argentina and settled a strike which was called for today. Announcement of the settlement which prevented virtual paralysis of the American film industry in Argentina was made here by John G. McCarthy, associate managing director of the international division of the Motion Picture Association of America.

While foreign managers of member companies of the MPAA were meeting here in emergency session, their Argentine representatives were assembled, awaiting word over the telephone as to how to meet the situation created by the Argentine film union.

Under terms of the settlement Argentine film workers for American interests will receive a maximum increase of 28 per cent while the companies retain major managerial rights.

U. S. Reports Film Progress in Italy

WASHINGTON, Sept. 8.—Last year was a banner one for the Italian motion picture industry, with both production and distribution activities making tremendous strides back to normal pre-war conditions, according to a U. S. Commerce Department report by film chief Nathan D. Golden.

The report states that 57 features were made in Italian studios last year, 10 more than in 1946, and 182 short subjects were turned out compared with 74 in 1946. Licenses to import 739 films were granted, close to 50 per cent above the 503 importations in 1946. Two-thirds of the imports came from the U. S., compared with 60 per cent in 1946. France, England and Russia followed the U. S.

Several U. S. film companies began

(Continued on page 2)

DEPINET ELECTED RKO PRESIDENT

Greece Allots Half Million for Imports

WASHINGTON, Sept. 8.—The Greek import control plan for motion pictures has been extended to cover the current fiscal year, with another \$500,000 allocated for U. S. film imports between July 1, 1948 and June 30, 1949, the U. S. Commerce Department reports.

As in the previous fiscal year, the amount will be divided into four equal parts of \$125,000 each, with remittances permitted for printing costs and shipping charges effected at the time of importation and with royalty payments on a pro rata basis as promptly after the close of each quarter as permitted by the checking of distributors' accounts.

Features and shorts will continue to be imported only on the basis of individual licenses from the Ministry of National Economy.

Expect Salesmen's Pact Momentarily

A union contract for the newly-organized film salesmen of the industry is expected to be agreed upon before the end of this week, it was indicated here yesterday by a distributors' committee negotiator. Representatives of 11 distributors and the Colosseum of Motion Picture Salesmen of America have been meeting almost daily in New York since Aug. 30.

Yesterday was one of the few days on which negotiations were not pursued. Both sides devoted the day to conferences among their own representatives.

Griffith Hearing Delayed to Nov. 30

OKLAHOMA CITY, Sept. 8.—Judge Edgar S. Vaught today again delayed a hearing on the Supreme Court mandate in the Griffith anti-trust case by setting Nov. 30 as the date for further proceedings. The Justice Department, which obtained a reversal in the case on appeal to the high tribunal, requested another delay because a new man is taking over its files in the case. Supreme Court has ordered Vaught to revise his ruling and possibly force the circuit to sell certain holdings. Vaught had held Griffith innocent of trust charges after a 1945 trial.

Re-election in October Held to Be Certain; Other Elections Are Pending

Ned E. Depinet yesterday was elected president of Radio-Keith-Orpheum Corp., at a special meeting of the company's board of direc-

March, 1946, Depinet has been, since the latter date, vice-chairman of the tors. He succeeds N. Peter Rathvon, whose resignation tendered July 23, was effective yesterday.

President of the subsidiary company, RKO Radio, from June, 1942, to board and executive vice-president of the parent company. The latter two posts remain unfilled.

Ned E. Depinet

A company statement carrying board

(Continued on page 6)

Signing of French Film Pact Uncertain

WASHINGTON, Sept. 8.—Both industry and Government officials now expect that final signature of the French-American film pact will have to wait on a clarification of the French internal political situation.

"We have no late word from Paris, and the pact may have been signed already," one official said, "but it is far more likely that the French are tied up" with their political crisis.

Building in Canada More Than Doubles

Ottawa, Sept. 8.—After dropping steadily, contracts for the construction of theatres in Canada jumped \$530,000 in July from \$200,000 in June.

However, estimates indicate that such contracts slumped to \$2,940,000 in the first seven months of 1948, compared with \$5,464,000 in the same period last year.

Personal Mention

WILLIAM C. GEHRING, 20th Century-Fox assistant general sales manager, and **CLARENCE HILL**, manager of branch operations, left here yesterday for Los Angeles.

DAVID GRIESDORF, general manager of International Films, Ltd., Canadian distributor of Eagle-Lion Films, is in town for conferences with Eagle-Lion executives. Before returning to his Toronto headquarters he will go to Hollywood.

DORIS MISHLER, secretary to G. E. BLACKFORD of the Warner home office publicity department, and **JEROME BLACK** have announced their engagement.

JIMMY HOBBS, Monogram's newly-appointed Atlanta branch manager, is in that city following a trip to Florida.

SAM SHAIN, 20th Century-Fox exhibitor relations director, left New York yesterday for Chicago.

JACK SOGG, M-G-M branch manager in Cleveland, arrived in New York yesterday for a few days' visit.

NATE BLUMBERG, president of Universal, has arrived in New York from the Coast.

B. G. KRANZE, Film Classics general sales manager, left here yesterday for Albany and Gloversville.

LARRY GENDRON has been named student manager at Loew's Poli Palace in Hartford.

PHIL ENGEL, New England publicist for United Artists, and **MARION HERBERT** were married recently.

JIM VIZZEO of the American Theatre, Bridgeport, has become engaged to **ANGELA DEFELIPA** of that city.

RUSSELL DOWNING, managing director of Radio City Music Hall, is on the Coast from New York.

WILLIAM F. RODGERS, M-G-M distribution vice-president, is due here tomorrow from the Coast.

JOE GOLDBERG of Popular Pictures, Cincinnati, has returned to that city from a vacation in Chicago.

Dembow Meetings in Pittsburgh, Denver

The George Dembow "Tribute Drive," in honor of National Screen Service's vice-president in charge of sales, gets further under way with regional sales meetings today in Pittsburgh and Denver, headed by William Bein, Eastern drive captain, and Ben Ashe, Western drive captain, respectively. District and branch managers and salesmen of each area are to attend.

Will Apply Jointly For U.K. Quota Aid

London, Sept. 8.—General Council of the Cinematograph Exhibitors Association today instructed CEA branches to collate all rejections of members' bids for relief under the Quota Act. The plan is to renew all of the rejected requests in one joint application.

Clark at U.N. Day Meet for MPAA

WASHINGTON, Sept. 8.—Motion Picture Association of America information chief Kenneth Clark will substitute for MPAA president Johnston at a meeting tomorrow of the Citizens Committee for United Nations Day. Johnston is chairman of the UN Day motion picture sub-committee. The group is slated to meet with Secretary of State Marshall and President Truman, and lay plans for observance of the event, to be held on Oct. 24.

Films a Part of U.N. Day Oct. 24

WASHINGTON, Sept. 8.—Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association of America, is chairman of the subcommittee on motion pictures for the nationwide observance of United Nations Day, Oct. 24.

A compilation by the association's educational services department, headed by Roger Albright, shows that at least 21 short subjects dealing with the United Nations are available for use in schools. These films are distributed through several sources, including Teaching Films Custodians, non-profit affiliate of the MPAA.

Observance of United Nations Day will be stimulated through the showing of these and other special motion pictures in schools and before educational groups.

U. S. Reports

(Continued from page 1)

production in Italy, the report points out. It says U. S. firms have turned to Italy because of a more favorable film agreement permitting the use of blocked lira for production there and the retention by the companies of a large part of the proceeds from the sale of films abroad.

FP-C to Meet in Oct.

TORONTO, Sept. 8.—Famous Players Canadian Corp. will hold its annual convention in October at the General Brock Hotel at Niagara Falls, Ont., where executives, partners and company field representatives will deal with plans and policies affecting the current season's operations.

De Silva to Monogram

Randolph A. de Silva has been appointed Trinidad representative for Monogram by Norton V. Ritchey, president of Monogram International. De Silva was until recently Trinidad representative of United Artists.

Narrow-gauge Boom In the Philippines

The 16mm. industry is enjoying great popularity in the Philippines with some 240 16mm. theatres receiving product from seven U. S. companies, Bert W. Palmertz, RKO Radio manager in Manila, asserted here yesterday. There are about 350 houses showing 35mm. product, he said.

Major American companies send from 30 to 36 pictures each annually into the islands, he declared, pointing out that the sales problem is made easier by the fact that nearly everyone in the country speaks some English. He said that about half of the 18,000,000 population are regular filmgoers. Palmertz revealed that the country produces about 35 native pictures a year, with virtually all the rest of the film imports coming from the U. S.

It was observed by Palmertz that the Philippines has no restrictions on remittances.

One of the industry problems, he said, is the shortage of materials necessary for construction. Business is off 35 per cent from the boom year of 1946, but "business still is above normal." Films liked best there, he said, are action types and color musicals.

This is the first trip here for Palmertz. He leaves for the Coast Sunday.

'Dual Selling'

(Continued from page 1)

money. It was decided, too, that the measure will demonstrate the impracticability of Britain's 45 per cent exhibition quota.

The meeting also decided to maintain the machinery with which the independents are summoned whenever a discussion of the problems is desirable prior to meetings of the General Council of the Cinematograph Exhibitors Association, which has, of course, large circuit representation.

The General Council today fully approved the recommendations of a general purposes committee of the CEA in dealings with J. Arthur Rank. The group had suggested negotiations with Rank of a general basis of fair trading terms and the refusal of Rank's terms until the negotiations end.

Michael J. Casey, 53

HARTFORD, Sept. 8.—Michael J. Casey, 53, stage manager of the Paramount Theatre at Springfield, and cousin of Pat Casey, former head of the film industry's labor relations board, has passed away. For many years, he was business agent of Local No. 53, IATSE, Springfield. His mother, a brother and a sister also survive.

Benjamin Fain, 53

CLEVELAND, Sept. 8.—Benjamin Fain, 53, partner with Charles Gottlob since 1933 in the operation of a group of neighborhood theatres here, died at his home last Sunday following a heart attack. Funeral services were held on Monday. The widow, Rose and three daughters survive.

AFM, Independents Meet Again Tomorrow

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 8.—Independent producers and American Federation of Musicians representatives, negotiating a new contract covering studio musicians, will reconvene again Friday after a short session today. It is understood that the producers, who have been seeking nullification or modification of the contract provision requiring them to maintain a contract orchestra, whether it is used or not, supplied figures purportedly showing the hardship worked by this requirement during the past year.

It is believed the AFM negotiators will study these statistics during the adjournment.

Charged with B. & K. Ticket Swindle Plot

CHICAGO, Sept. 8.—Investigation of an alleged ticket resale swindle plot at the Loop B. and K. State Lake Theatre brought about the arrest today of Leo Guy Kosta, 27, assistant manager, who was charged with the embezzlement of \$5,000. B. and K. officials said, however, that preliminary investigation indicated the amount involved was \$30,000 and might even reach \$100,000. Kept intact, the tickets apparently were returned to the cashier's cage and resold from a roll under the cashier's counter, according to a B. and K. spokesman. Kosta was arrested while on a vacation in Asheville, N. C., at the request of Chicago police.

Named to Censor Board

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 8.—Beatrice B. Miller was appointed by Governor Duff today to the \$4,500 post of secretary of the State Board of Censors. She succeeds Mrs. Lucy H. Love who resigned a year ago; the post has been vacant since.

Sanders Slates Drive-In

LOUISVILLE, Sept. 8.—Paul Sanders, head of Sanders Theatres, Campbellsville, Ky., has announced plans for the construction of a 400-car drive-in theatre just outside of Campbellsville. The theatre will not be ready for opening before next season.

Lease Two Houses


HARTFORD, Sept. 8.—Community Amusement Corp., here has acquired from Daly Theatre Corp., a 10-year lease for the 1,200-seat Daly Theatre in Hartford, and the 700-seat Plainfield Theatre in Plainfield, Conn.

Warnèrites To Golf

The Warner Club here will hold its annual golf tournament, the first since the war, on Friday, Sept. 17, at the Vernon Hills Country Club, Tuckahoe, N. Y.

Mrs. George Hughes

WASHINGTON, Sept. 8.—Mrs. George Hughes, 96-year-old mother-in-law of Motion Picture Association of America president Eric Johnston, died this morning in her home in Spokane after a long illness, it was learned here. Funeral services will be held tomorrow in Spokane.

WARNER BROS'.  TRADE SHOWINGS OF

"SMART GIRLS DON'T TALK"

starring

VIRGINIA

BRUCE

ROBERT

MAYO • BENNETT • HUTTON

with TOM D'ANDREA • RICHARD ROBER

Directed by RICHARD BARE • Produced by SAUL ELKINS

WRITTEN BY WILLIAM SACKHEIM

MONDAY, SEPT. 13th, 1948

CITY	PLACE OF SHOWING	ADDRESS	TIME
Albany	Warner Screening Room	79 N. Pearl St.	12:30 P.M.
Atlanta	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	197 Walton St. N.W.	2:30 P.M.
Boston	RKO Screening Room	122 Arlington St.	2:30 P.M.
Buffalo	Paramount Sc. Room	464 Franklin Street	2:00 P.M.
Charlotte	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	308 S. Church St.	10:00 A.M.
Chicago	Warner Screening Room	1307 So. Wabash Ave.	1:30 P.M.
Cincinnati	RKO Screening Room	Palace Th. Bldg. E. 6th	8:00 P.M.
Cleveland	Warner Screening Room	2300 Payne Ave.	2:00 P.M.
Dallas	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	1803 Wood St.	2:00 P.M.
Denver	Paramount Sc. Room	2100 Stout St.	2:00 P.M.
Des Moines	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	1300 High St.	12:45 P.M.
Detroit	Film Exchange Bldg.	2310 Cass Ave.	2:00 P.M.
Indianapolis	Universal Sc. Room	517 No. Illinois St.	1:00 P.M.
Kansas City	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	1720 Wyandotte St.	1:30 P.M.
Los Angeles	Warner Screening Room	2025 S. Vermont Ave.	2:00 P.M.
Memphis	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	151 Vance Ave.	10:00 A.M.
Milwaukee	Warner Th. Sc. Rm.	212 W. Wisconsin Ave.	2:00 P.M.
Minneapolis	Warner Screening Room	1000 Currie Ave.	2:00 P.M.
New Haven	Warner Th. Proj. Rm.	70 College St.	2:00 P.M.
New Orleans	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	200 S. Liberty St.	1:30 P.M.
New York	Home Office	321 W. 44th St.	2:30 P.M.
Oklahoma	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	10 North Lee St.	1:30 P.M.
Omaha	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	1502 Davenport St.	1:00 P.M.
Philadelphia	Warner Screening Room	230 No. 13th St.	2:30 P.M.
Pittsburgh	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	1715 Blvd. of Allies	1:30 P.M.
Portland	Jewel Box Sc. Room	1947 N.W. Kearney St.	2:00 P.M.
Salt Lake	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	216 East 1st South	2:00 P.M.
San Francisco	Paramount Sc. Room	205 Golden Gate Ave.	1:30 P.M.
Seattle	Jewel Box Sc. Room	2318 Second Ave.	10:30 A.M.
St. Louis	S'renco Sc. Room	3143 Olive St.	1:00 P.M.
Washington	Warner Th. Bldg.	13th & E Sts. N.W.	10:30 A.M.



This line was

BUSY

all day long with more people —
19,000 of 'em — than have attended any N. Y. Paramount
Theatre opening since the New Year's Eve Premiere of
"Star Spangled Rhythm" 'way back in 1942 . . .

BUSIER

than the lines
that made history with "Welcome Stranger," "Road to Rio,"
outgrossing all Paramount hits since July, 1946 . . .

BUSIEST

of any opening in the past 26 months, with one of
the N. Y. Paramount's 6 Top Grossers of All Time that's
ready to put you right back in War-Boom

BUSINE

**AND THE CRITICS PUT
IN A HURRY-CALL
FOR NEW YORK'S
MILLIONS TO SEE IT—**

"One of the most gripping pictures of the year."
—*Life Magazine*

"Paramount audiences will be a fascinated and aghast crowd. The customers will avoid dark streets on the way home. It belongs among the very best of the season's thrillers. The excitement mounts to a frenzy."

—*Alton Cook, World-Telegram*

"A film for moviegoers with stout nerves. Does superbly what it sets out to do—to scare an audience into shivers. Suspense mounts to an almost unbearable pitch . . . leaves the spectator shaken."

—*Eileen Creelman, The Sun*

"The Paramount's cooling system is getting stiff competition from this chiller . . . a horror film of the hair-raising, spine-tingling, finger-nail-chewing variety. This one you won't soon forget. Top honors go to Miss Stanwyck."

—*Rose Pelswick, Journal-American*

"Radio's murder classic . . . rendered more graphic by visual excellence. A leader and a very glossy piece of entertainment. Even in 'Double Indemnity' Stanwyck was not called upon for comparable emotional fireworks."

—*Archer Winsten, Post*

"An outstanding blood-curdler, a socko thriller. Stanwyck turns in a memorable performance. Expert direction by Anatole Litvak."

—*Lee Mortimer, Mirror*

"Tapestry of terror . . . calculated to scare the wits out of the spectator. The celebrated radio thriller . . . builds to staccato and brutal climax. No compromises have been made."

—*Howard Barnes, Herald Tribune*

"Will have Paramount patrons sitting on the edges of their seats. Wallis made an excellent choice in Stanwyck for the role of the woman who knows she is about to be murdered and can't do anything about it."

—*Kate Cameron, Daily News*

"A humdinger of a picture . . . a whizbang of a chiller. You'll find yourself gripping the arms of your seat, your teeth set on edge, with goose pimples playing tag up and down your spine."

—*Leo Mishkin, Morning Telegraph*

Paramount's
Biggest Hit In Years!

**BARBARA
Stanwyck**

**BURT
Lancaster**

in
**"SORRY,
WRONG
NUMBER"**

with
ANN RICHARDS • WENDELL COREY • HAROLD VERMILYEA
Directed by
ANATOLE LITVAK • HAL WALLIS • ANATOLE LITVAK
Screenplay by Lucille Fletcher • Based on her famous radio play
A HAL WALLIS PRODUCTIONS, INC., PICTURE

SS

Depinet

(Continued from page 1)

chairman Floyd B. Odlum's announcement of Depinet's election said:

"Inasmuch as Mr. Depinet was the choice for RKO president of all parties concerned, it naturally follows that he will be re-elected president following the stockholders meeting to be held soon."

The stockholders' meeting is tentatively scheduled for Oct. 18.

Odlum Resignation Deferred

Odlum's reported resignation as board chairman failed to materialize yesterday. It is expected that he will continue at least until the October board meeting. Following yesterday's meeting, which took place at the downtown offices here of Odlum's Atlas Corp., a spokesman for Odlum denied emphatically reports that Odlum and Rathvon plan to form an independent production company. The spokesman did indicate, however, that Odlum may interest himself financially in future production of individual pictures, but he declined to elaborate on that regard.

Depinet's election to the RKO presidency came on the eve of his 58th birthday, which is today. He has had a long career as an industry executive. After having served earlier as a booker and film salesman, he joined Universal in 1911 as Southern division manager. Later he was appointed one of three sales directors at the Universal home office. In 1926, he became a member of the sales cabinet and manager of the Southern territory of the old First National Pictures, later becoming general sales manager.

Joined on RKO-Pathe Merger

With the merger of Pathe and RKO, Depinet joined the company and was elected to the board of directors of RKO Radio and RKO Pathe in 1932. He was elected president of RKO Distributing Corp. in 1934, vice-president of RKO Radio and president of Pathe News, Inc., in 1937. In 1940 he was named vice-president and a director of RKO, and in June, 1942, was elected president of RKO Radio. In 1946 he became vice-chairman of the board and executive vice-president of RKO.

Rejects Taft Oath

(Continued from page 1)

the nationwide referendum was by secret ballot.

Both SPG and SOPEG have, in recent votes of their own, reaffirmed their policies of not signing the affidavits. Refusal to sign the affidavits means the union is not able to take advantage of National Labor Relations Board services in jurisdictional disputes. SOPEG has already faced that obstacle in its current jurisdictional dispute with IATSE at United Artists home office here, and the company has refused to negotiate with SOPEG because it has not signed the affidavits.

Set 'Joan' 'Spectacular'

A \$60,000 spectacular sign for RKO Radio's "Joan of Arc" will be completed at Broadway and 43rd Street here on Sept. 15. The location rental cost is reported to be \$4,000 a month, and it will be operated for at least one year. Foote, Cone and Belding supervised construction for Sierra Pictures, Inc.

Review

"Apartment for Peggy"

(20th Century-Fox)

GEORGE SEATON'S screenplay, which he has also directed, recites the trials and hopes of Jeanne Crain, as a young expectant mother, and her husband, William Holden, pursuing an education on a G.I. scholarship. It has a lot of substance, some tear-jerking sequences and, done in Technicolor, it should have wide appeal, particularly for women patrons.

The young couple's first problem is the housing situation on a Northern university campus. Miss Crain solves that by talking Edmund Gwenn, as a retired professor, out of the attic of his home, which she promptly converts into living quarters. Gwenn, feeling himself useless in his declining years, had contemplated suicide. The zestful young couple in his home gives him renewed interest in life.

Holden, pinched for money, is tempted to abandon his studies. The delayed arrival of his allotment check forces his wife to do without medicine and, subsequently, their baby is born dead. He leaves the university and gets a job selling used cars despite Miss Crain's protests. Gwenn attempts to talk Holden into resuming his studies but, feeling that he has failed to persuade the younger man and soon will lose the company of Miss Crain, Gwenn attempts the suicide he had contemplated. Holden returns to the university, is reconciled with Miss Crain and Gwenn learns he has taken an overdose of harmless medicine rather than of sleeping pills.

There is a breezy quality to much of the incidental story material and to Miss Crain's playing of a garrulous young extrovert that provides sound amusement as interludes for the film's more serious content and the drabness of the young couple's existence. There are also serious discussions of the younger generation, of philosophy, class-room brand, of improving civilization, of suicide and the sorry lot of a teacher. Much of it tends to retard the action and not all of it is certain to interest the customers.

Moreover, there is an outspokenness about pregnancy and its physical manifestations that may impair the acceptability of the picture as family entertainment to some.

William Perlberg produced. The screenplay is based on a story by Faith Baldwin. Performances of the principals are competent and there is an excellent supporting cast. Direction is good.

Running time, 96 minutes. Adult classification. For October release.

SHERWIN KANE

Wolf Stresses Local 'Reach' of Industry

HARTFORD, Sept. 8.—Pointing up the extent to which the motion picture industry reaches into the community as a business, Maurice N. Wolf, M-G-M public relations assistant, told the Hartford Kiwanis Club that some 80 per cent of the 206,000 persons employed in the industry is located in exhibition in the field and that 91 per cent of the total industry capitalization of nearly \$3,000,000,000 is outside of Hollywood and in American communities.

Memphis Hearing on 'Curley' Sept. 28

MEMPHIS, Sept. 8.—United Artists and Hal Roach will press their fight to lift the Memphis Board of Censors' ban on "Curley" at a hearing here on Sept. 28 before Chancellor Lawrence Creson. UA, as the distributor, and Roach, producer, will seek to have the court review the board's action, while the board, in turn, will seek to quash their petition.

Terry in Video Post

CINCINNATI, Sept. 8.—Marshall M. Terry has been named vice-president of the Crosley Broadcasting Co. in charge of television activities. Formerly WLW vice-president in charge of promotion, he will have supervision over WLWT here; WLWD, Dayton; WLWC, Columbus.

Wood To Film in Italy

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 8.—Sam Wood, accompanied by his production staff, will leave in mid-November for Rome to begin selection of location sites and other preliminaries for the filming in Italy of "Quo Vadis," Arthur Hornblow, Jr., production which Wood will direct next for M-G-M.

Film Express Rates May Be Increased

WASHINGTON, Sept. 8.—The Railway Express Agency has asked the Interstate Commerce Commission to approve a new single nationwide express scale which would cost Eastern and Southern shippers from 11 cents to 99 cents per 100 pounds more than they are now paying. Film distributors and theatre accessory dealers are among the largest customers of Railway Express.

The new nationwide scale takes the rates now in effect West of the Mississippi and applies them to the South and East as well. Rates in these two areas are 11 to 99 cents below Western rates, depending on the length of the haul.

Miss. Gets Theatre Equipped for Video

NEW ALBANY, Miss., Sept. 8.—Formal opening of "The Magnolia," with facilities for television, and described as one of the "most completely modern theatres in all Mississippi," is scheduled for tomorrow night. David Flexer, president of Flexer Theatres, Inc., which will operate the house, said the house will probably be one of the first theatres in the South to offer regular television service.

Rhoden Optimistic

KANSAS CITY, Sept. 8.—Optimism for fall business was expressed by Elmer C. Rhoden, president of Fox Midwest, at the two-day convention of Fox Midwest which opened here today. Rhoden's report was based on his recent survey of his territory.

Kane Gets Lawson House

SEATTLE, Sept. 8.—J. R. Kane has taken over the ownership of the Capitol Theatre in Tacoma formerly operated by Helen Lawson.

Mr. Exhibitor!

KAYE DAY

will be
**YOUR
PAY DAY!**

Samuel Goldwyn

Accurate
Concise
and
Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

FIRST
IN
FILM
NEWS

64. NO. 50

NEW YORK, U.S.A., FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1948

TEN CENTS

20th-Fox to Make 30 for New Season

Zanuck Pledges Quality Will Be Safeguarded

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 9.—The 20th Century-Fox production schedule for the 1948-49 season will comprise 30 features, Darryl F. Zanuck, vice-president in charge of production, announced last night on his return here from a European trip.

Six of the 30 features will be made abroad, 24 here, Zanuck said. The number includes only the company's own productions and is exclusive of films to be made for 20th-Fox release by Sol Wurtzel, Frank Seltzer and other independent producers. Announcement concerning the latter productions is expected to be made at the company's sales convention here next week.

In making his announcement, Zanuck said: "Never before in its history has Hollywood's talents, all down the line, faced so grave a challenge to

(Continued on page 3)

20th's Global Plans Outlined Next Week

Twentieth Century-Fox is formulating what it describes as new and important global production plans to strengthen its position with respect to blocked funds abroad, with worldwide distribution in mind. The program, first touched upon by Spyros P. Skouras, 20th's president, at the company's Canadian sales convention last July, will be detailed at the company's first national sales convention in seven years, to be held at National Theatres' Los Angeles headquarters on Sept. 14-17.

Customary formal convention addresses to delegates by company home

(Continued on page 3)

E-L, Para. Get Trust Suit Time Extension

Federal Judge Simon H. Riskind yesterday granted Eagle-Lion and Paramount until Sept. 24 for filing answers in U. S. District Court here to charges of anti-trust law violation brought by Prudential Theatres and the Playhouse of New Caanan, Conn.

Similar time extension already has been granted other defendants, namely, United Artists, Universal, Columbia, Monogram and New England Theatres.

Ascap to Ask for a 30-Day Deferment

American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers is expected to ask for a 30-day postponement for the filing of a proposed decree in the anti-trust case decided against it in New York Federal Court. Both Ascap and the plaintiffs, the latter being members of the Independent Theatre Owners Association, are supposed to submit to the court a proposed order giving effect to the court's decision of July 20 within 60 days of that date, or by Sept. 20. Ascap's special counsel, Robert P. Patterson, returned from a vacation this week and will petition the court for the postponement on the grounds that he has had insufficient time to work on the case.

Thomas All Set for Hollywood Probe

WASHINGTON, Sept. 9.—House Un-American Activities Committee Chairman Thomas admitted today his group is running "behind schedule" in the series of hearings planned for this month and next month, but still promised that resumption of the Hollywood hearings would come during the current series, probably early next month.

A subcommittee headed by Thomas is holding closed hearings this week to prepare for the open hearings later in the month, but Thomas said none of the closed sessions would touch on Hollywood. "Our case there is all ready," he declared.

Nation's Showmen Select The 'Stars of Tomorrow'

The nation's showmen have selected Jane Powell the No. 1 "Star of Tomorrow" in *Motion Picture Herald's* eighth annual poll of exhibitor opinion on those players who are most likely to ascend to stellar heights on the motion picture screen.

Rounding out the top 10, besides Miss Powell, in a combined vote of both circuit and independent operators, are: Cyd Charisse, Ann Blyth, Celeste Holm, Robert Ryan, Angela Lansbury, Jean Peters, Mona Freeman, Eleanor Parker and Doris Day.

The "Stars-of-Tomorrow" poll, established in 1941, is *Motion Picture Herald's* mid-year companion canvass to its 15-year-old "Money-Making Stars" poll, the trade's oldest and universally accepted yardstick of talent values. Both polls are conducted by mail ballot and reflect the findings of theatre operators in direct and con-

Prefer New Date For U. S. Hearing

Postponement for at least a day of the New York Federal Court hearing in the industry anti-trust suit, now scheduled for Oct. 13, is hoped for by a number of attorneys in the case who will observe the Jewish holy day, Yom Kippur, which falls on that date.

A lengthier postponement is hoped for by other defense attorneys who are scheduled to be engaged in trial of the Dipson anti-trust suit in Buffalo Federal Court on Oct. 13. No formal application for postponement of the New York hearing has been made.

Crime Film Protests Increase in Ontario

TORONTO, Sept. 9.—Growing complaints against films with crime and sex themes are being received by exhibitors from patrons in the smaller towns of Ontario, it is reported. Films protested against are generally those put in the "adult" category by the Ontario Censor board, it was said.

The Ontario Motion Picture Theatres Association has reported that rural exhibitors are feeling the effects of the protests at the box-office. The association has asked for more information regarding the increasing resistance in rural centers with a view to placing the situation before distributors.

SPG, SOPEG Rejected By Distributors

8 Companies, Like UA, Cite Communist Issue

The issue of Communist domination of two industry home office CIO unions broke wide open in New York yesterday when eight distributors, following the pattern set several months ago by United Artists, flatly informed the Screen Publicists Guild and the Screen Office and Professional Employees Guild that their failure to comply with the non-Communist affidavit provisions of the Taft-Hartley Law has made it impossible for the companies to negotiate new contracts with them.

The companies which took this stand in individually-signed letters to SPG president Jeff Livingston and SOPEG president Sidney Young, are: Columbia, Loew's, Paramount, Republic, RKO Radio, RKO Service Corp., 20th Century-Fox and Warners. Two companies which were not parties to the action were Universal-International and Eagle-Lion.

The companies, it is understood, took a "positive approach" in their

(Continued on page 3)

Pledge Industry to Support U. N. Day

WASHINGTON, Sept. 9.—The film industry today gave the Government its pledge of full cooperation in observing United Nations Day on Oct. 24.

Motion Picture Association of America information chief Ken Clark represented the industry at a meeting of the Citizens Committee for United Nations Day, held in two sessions at the State Department and at the White House. MPAA president Eric Johnston is chairman of the film subcom-

(Continued on page 3)

Ask Gov't Guarantee In Japan and Korea

Motion Picture Export Association has filed application with the Economic Cooperation Administration for investment guarantees in Japan and Korea, it is reported here. It is understood that the MPEA seeks permission to take dollars out of both countries to cover expenses. A similar MPEA application for Germany, submitted several weeks ago, still is pending.

Personal Mention

HARRY GOLD arrived in Hollywood yesterday from New York for conferences with HOWARD HUGHES.

MRS. ROBERT NASHICK, wife of a member of the Loew's Theatres publicity department, is recovering in Meadowbrook Hospital, L. I., from injuries sustained in an auto accident.

GENE KINGSTON, head of the Universal-International contract checking department, and MRS. KINGSTON have become parents of their third child, a daughter.

VICTOR VOLMAR, Monogram International publicity director, will leave New York today for a combination business and vacation visit in Hollywood.

JOHN CICERO, Paramount advertising production manager, will leave here today for a vacation at Shelter Island, L. I.

E. T. GOMERSALL, assistant to W. A. SCULLY, Universal-International distribution vice-president, is in Chicago from New York.

WILLIAM HEBERT, Goldwyn Productions studio advertising-publicity director, will leave Hollywood by plane today for New York.

R. D. GOLDBERG, Omaha circuit head, is on the Coast from that city for a business trip.

MANNING J. POST, Gibraltar Pictures vice-president, is in town from Beverly Hills, Cal.

R. M. (BOB) SAVINI, Astor Pictures president, is expected to leave Hollywood tomorrow for New York.

PAUL GRAETZ, French producer, is due back in New York on Monday from France.

ROBERT COYNE, Theatre Owners of America executive, is in Chicago from New York.

SAM SEIDELMAN, Eagle-Lion foreign operations manager, returned to New York yesterday from the Coast.

ANDY W. SMITH, JR., 20th-Fox's general sales manager, will leave New York today for Hollywood.

Legion Rates Two 'B's In Reviewing Seven

"An Act of Murder," Universal-International, and "Code of Scotland Yard," Republic, were given B ratings this week by the National Legion of Decency in its review of seven more pictures. Rated A-I are: U-I's "For the Love of Mary"; 20th Century-Fox's "The Luck of the Irish," and Associated British-Pathe's "Quiet Weekend"; rated A-II were: U-I's "Larceny," and Warners' "Two Guys from Texas."

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Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

WALTER WANGER was around town less than a week last week. But before he left New York once more for Hollywood, he unsheathed a whole array of suggestions designed to improve the status of the industry. Thus:

1.—"We should not concentrate on cutting costs, but rather on seeking new ideas. We must keep pace with the great strides made by industry in general and in the fields of advertising and merchandising.

2.—More showmanship is required on the part of exhibitors.

3.—Theatre operators should visit Hollywood more often, talk with studio executives and talent on a constructive exchange of ideas.

4.—Studios should work more closely together for the good of the business as a whole.

5.—Major companies should encourage independent production for the good of the industry. "We are all tied up together."

6.—The breach between Hollywood and New York is too great.

7.—Proper public relations are necessary. Through them the industry should have greater recognition in Washington."

There is one essay, minimum, in each of these points. On a cooler day we might be ambitious enough to try it. No one would be convinced, but someone might carry off the impression we can be profound if we went to work at it.

Point 3, however, reminds of a story. It's about a theatre operator—the kind Wanger believes should visit Hollywood often—who was lured West chiefly by climate but was ready to exchange ideas if for no other reason than charging the trip to business expense. He couldn't even get into the studio controlled by the company in which he was a stockholder.

Jimmy Nasser, San Francisco exhibitor now up to here in production, continues to break out with provocative approaches to matters long accepted as standard. His latest bears on the practice of those producers "who slap stars around a series of unrelated roles". This, thinks Nasser, eventually will junk the whole star system. He admits type-casting has been kidded for years by many producers, critics

and some of the stars themselves. "Yet that was the policy that built up box-office giants like Will Rogers, Rudolph Valentino and Shirley Temple as a child," he maintains. In fact, a checkup of key-city exhibitors supports his view that topline players ought to abandon widely different characterizations and stand by their old reliable, whatever that may be—so Nasser says.

This rekindles, for the tiniest of flames anyway, one of Hollywood's long-standing bleats against exhibition: That, because theatremen want carbon copies of established successes, production is in constant danger of being stultified. It is the sort of situation that might be argued for days with only one foreseeable result: Hollywood will continue to make the product its own way.

About 48 hours with practically no breaks were required to effect the out-of-court settlement of the lawsuit filed by Howard Hughes over "Red River". Similarity of one of the climactic scenes in "The Outlaw" was the charge. Forty-eight hours, plus Hughes, Grad Sears and high-priced lawyers, to cut 18 seconds of "Red River" footage.

The excised film out of all prints just about filled a medium-sized suitcase.

A Third of a Century Ago—Universal was claiming its campaign for "The Black Box" was "the biggest, the most complete and comprehensive ever put out for any film serial ever produced." Which proves adjectives were adjectives way back then too. . . . Ohio exhibitors were divided over the safety values of motor-driven projection machines and some were holding out for the hand-driven kind. . . . Pennsylvania had censorship in those days, despite repeated exhibitor attempts at repeal. . . . Sam Dembow, special representative for Box Office Attractions Co., was concerned about overbuilding in New Orleans suburbs, figuring 15 per cent of the neighborhood population was tops any outlying houses in that city could depend upon. . . . Metro Pictures Corp. had just been formed, boasting a capitalization of \$300,000.

Shuford Chairman of MPAA Publicity Unit

Stanley Shuford, advertising manager of Paramount, was elected chairman of the Advertising and Publicity Directors Committee of the Motion Picture Association of America at a meeting here yesterday. Maurice Bergman, Eastern advertising-publicity director of Universal-International, is retiring chairman of the committee.

\$4,000,000 Seen for 'Ruth' in U.S.: Broidy

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 9. — Domestic gross of \$4,000,000 for "The Babe Ruth Story" is predicted by Steve Broidy, president of Allied Artists-Monogram, who based his estimate on the first 63 playdates of the film outside New York.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center

"A DATE WITH JUDY"

Wallace BEERY	Jane POWELL
Elizabeth TAYLOR	Carmen MIRANDA
Xavier CUGAT	Robert STACK

A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

ROY DEL RUTH'S **THE BABE RUTH STORY**

WILLIAM CLARE
BENDIX-TREVOR
CHARLES BICKFORD

COOL ASTOR 8-WAY AT 45TH ST. Cont. Performances • Pop Price

Barbara Stanwyck
Burt Lancaster

"SORRY, WRONG NUMBER"

A Paramount Release

PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

ROSALIND RUSSELL
in
"THE VELVET TOUCH"

A FREDERICK BRISSON PRODUCTION

Released through RKO

RIVOLI B'way & 49th St.

Betty Grable - Douglas Fairbanks, Jr.

"THAT LADY IN ERMINE"

A 20th Century-Fox Picture—**TECHNICOLOR**

On Variety Stage—FRANCES LANGFORD & JON HALL • HARMONICATS

JERRY COLONNA

On Ice Stage—"THE MERRY WIDOW"

Starring CAROL LYNN - FRITZ DIETL

ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

NSS Meetings in N. Y. And K. C. Tomorrow

Third in a series of regional sales meetings, preceding the "Dembow Tribute Drive" honoring George F. Dembow, National Screen Service sales vice-president, will be held tomorrow in New York and Kansas City.

The New York meeting will be led by Eastern drive captain William Bein, and the Kansas City meeting will be headed by Western captain Ben Ashe.

The New York meeting will also be attended by Leo Abrams, district manager, and from New York, Harold Bennett, branch manager; Joe Katzoff, Jack Levy and Henry Reiner, salesmen; from Boston, Harry Kirchgessner, manager, and Maynard Sickels and Fred Stolloff, salesmen; from Buffalo, Jack Goldstein, manager, and Sam Geffen, salesman, and Adolph Edman, representing Albany and New Haven.

The meeting at Kansas City will also be attended by Louis Patz, district manager, and Charles Brenner and Andrew Winningham, K. C. salesmen; from Des Moines, Milton Feinberg, manager, and James Parsons and Richard Shields, salesmen; from Minneapolis, Jay MacFarland, manager, and Jack Allender and Jack Greenberg, salesmen; from Omaha, Izzy Sokoloff.

20th's Global Plans

(Continued from page 1)

office, sales and studio heads will give way to round table discussions led by division and branch managers, with Skouras, Andy W. Smith, Jr., general sales manager, and William C. Gehring, assistant sales manager, acting as moderators.

Long Preparation Evident

When it was first decided to substitute the round table procedure for formal speeches at the business sessions, Smith sent lists of the principal topics of discussion to division and branch managers in the field to enable them to prepare ahead to discuss the agenda in detail at the convention.

Special sales plans and policy for the final quarter of 1948 and for the first nine months of 1949 will also be taken up and new product will be viewed during visits to the studio.

Darryl F. Zanuck, production vice-president, will make the principal address to the delegates next Thursday evening at a dinner at 20th's studio Cafe de Paris, outlining the company's expanded international production plans and reporting on his recent six-week trip to England, Italy and France, which he visited to survey and establish the first stages of the global program.

General Topics on Tuesday

The opening day, Tuesday, will be devoted to general topics in open forum and on Wednesday Smith will review pictures scheduled for release during the next 12 months. Advertising, publicity and exploitation plans for these productions will be outlined at this session by Charles Schlaifer, advertising-publicity director.

The sessions next Friday will be given over to individual branch and divisional meetings to be conducted by Smith and Gehring and divisional sales managers.

Vogel Promotes Three In Loew's Theatres

Three managerial promotions have been made by Joseph R. Vogel of Loew's Theatres, to take place immediately. Martin Gallagher, Jr., who started with Loew's as an usher, and recently has been assistant manager of the Capitol, New York, is named acting manager of Loew's Willard in Queens. Sigmund Schwartz, manager of the 46th Street Theatre, Brooklyn, moves to Loew's 175th Street, succeeding Archie Adelman, who has resigned. Paul Swater, manager of the Willard, moves into the 46th Street post.

Waldman Top Winner In F-C Sales Drive

Top spot in the branch managers' new product drive of Film Classics went to George Waldman and his New York branch, it was announced here yesterday by B. G. Kranze, sales vice-president.

Other winners were: D. J. Edele, St. Louis, second place; Robert P. Abelson, Los Angeles, third; Sam Sobel, San Francisco, fourth; B. A. Slaughter, Jr., Charlotte, fifth.

A new sales campaign, "The Joseph Bernhard Sales Drive," now is underway in honor of the company's president.

Fox Midwest Holds Youth Month Meets

KANSAS CITY, Sept. 9.—Youth Month activities, including the support of a dozen baseball teams on a permanent basis, was taken up at separate meetings of the five districts of Fox Midwest Theatres today. C. C. Murray is city manager of the circuit. The meetings ended with an outing at Star Lane Farm.

20th-Fox to Make 30

(Continued from page 1)

deliver the goods, on account of the present economic situation. This is especially true in the preparation of scripts and the advance preparation of pictures before they go to the stages.

"We must produce economically but never will quality be sacrificed. Perfection will be the keynote at 20th Century-Fox. I am completely optimistic about the future as far as our company is concerned. We have never had a richer backlog of story material to choose from and this will keep us in a position to deliver to exhibitors a diversified program, which always has been our goal."

20th Denies Charge

Twentieth Century-Fox filed in U.S. District Court here yesterday a general denial of charges brought by sportswoman Mildred (Babe) Didrickson Zaharias who filed a \$100,000 damage action for breach of contract. In asking for dismissal of the suit, the company said it has no written contract with Mrs. Zaharias, who alleges 20th-Fox had agreed to star her in a series of short subjects.

'Peggy' Premiere Sept. 30

DETROIT, Sept. 9.—Dave M. Idzal, manager of the Fox Theatre, today announced that the Fox will celebrate the 20th anniversary of its opening with the world premiere on Sept. 30 of "Apartment for Peggy." Plans are being made for Hollywood stars to be on hand.

SPG, SOPEG

(Continued from page 1)

communications to the guilds, namely, that the managements would be pleased to "do business" if affidavits certifying that the officers of the unions are not Communists, along with financial statements, are filed by each with the National Labor Relations Board. However, recent referendums on that score by SPG and SOPEG memberships, as well as by the membership of their parent union, United Office and Professional Workers of America (CIO) reaffirmed overwhelmingly those unions' policies of not signing the affidavits.

SPG Intimates Strike Action

SOPEG held a strategy meeting here yesterday. Young said a statement will be forthcoming today. SPG, according to Livingston, "has the possibility of strike action very much in mind," but expects to confine itself for the time being to milder attempts to persuade the companies to reverse their stand. The guilds' contracts with the companies expire Sept. 27 and thus far only Eagle-Lion, Livingston reports, has agreed to negotiate. SOPEG recently bid for a 25 per cent general wage increase in a communication sent to company presidents.

Company labor attorneys said yesterday that, since the Taft-Hartley Law terms strikes "legitimate" only when they are inspired by "unfair labor practices," strike action by SPG and SOPEG would not make it legally impossible for the companies to replace permanently members of the guilds who choose to walk out. The companies, the attorneys point out, are merely keeping within the law of the land in refusing to negotiate with non-complying unions.

Inroads by H-63 Continue

It is understood, meanwhile, that AFL's IATSE Home Office Employees Local No. H-63 has made organizing inroads among the "white collar" workers in most of the home offices, having "close to a majority" at Paramount. At UA, H-63's jurisdictional tilt with SOPEG is approaching the shop election stage; a scheduled election was blocked by SOPEG sympathizers recently by virtue of an appeal now before the NLRB in Washington. It is expected that H-63, which claims an "overwhelming majority" at UA, will act quickly now at the other companies with a view toward repeating at the other home offices the success it has had at UA. "IA," of course, has complied fully with the Taft-Hartley Law, although it is currently conducting a campaign for repeal.

FCC Hearing Oct. 19 On 'Giveaway' Rules

WASHINGTON, Sept. 9.—The Federal Communications Commission has announced that it will hear oral argument on Oct. 19 on its proposed rules banning "giveaway" programs from the air. Deadline for filing briefs on the rules has been extended from tomorrow to Sept. 24.

Yarmove Appointed

Jack Yarmove has been appointed vice-president in charge of public relations and motion pictures of the L. H. Hartman Co., New York advertising agency. Yarmove, who resigned from an executive post at the Institute of Public Relations to head up the new department at Hartman, was at one time associated with 20th Century-Fox.

New Odeon Theatre Opens in Toronto

TORONTO, Sept. 9.—Formal opening of the new Odeon-Toronto Theatre was held here tonight before invited dignitaries who filled the 2,400 seats of the palatial structure. Presiding over the ceremonies was J. Earl Lawson, head of Canadian Odeon, who introduced Rt. Hon. Earl Winterton, a member of the British peerage, and Sydney Wynne, both representing J. Arthur Rank for the occasion. North American premiere of "Oliver Twist" was held at the theatre.

Also among those on hand for the ceremonies were Patricia Roc and Trevor Howard, British film stars who flew here from London.

'Stars of Tomorrow'

(Continued from page 1)

of "Tomorrow" selections: Cyd Charisse, Angela Lansbury, Celeste Holm, Jane Powell, Robert Ryan, Ann Blyth, Doris Day, Jean Peters, Eleanor Parker, Richard Widmark.

The ballooning by independent exhibitors resulted in these 10 selections: Jane Powell, Mona Freeman, Ann Blyth, Cyd Charisse, Robert Ryan, Eleanor Parker, Celeste Holm, Angela Lansbury, Dean Stockwell, Jean Peters.

The next 15 "Stars of Tomorrow" in the combined vote of circuits and independents are:

Barbara Bel Geddes, Richard Widmark, Kirk Douglas, Dean Stockwell, Wendell Corey, Wanda Hendrix, Audrey Totter, June Havoc, Howard Duff, Robert Hutton, Olga San Juan, John Agar, Coleen Gray, Richard Hart, Pedro Armendariz.

Canadian exhibitors agreed with U. S. exhibitors on eight out of 10 "Stars of Tomorrow," although considerably scrambling the U. S. theatre operators' one-two-three order. The Canadians placed Ann Blyth in first position, Celeste Holm in second, and Jean Peters in third position. On the U. S. side of the border, they placed third, fourth and seventh, respectively. Others on the Canadian list were Cyd Charisse, Barbara Bel Geddes, Robert Ryan, Angela Lansbury, Jane Powell, June Havoc and Mona Freeman, fourth to 10th place, respectively. The two areas of disagreement between the exhibitors were over Miss Bel Geddes and Miss Havoc. U. S. exhibitors placed them 11th and 18th, respectively. During the history of the poll there has seldom been any major differences between Canada and the U. S. over their choices for "Stars of Tomorrow."

U.N. Day Support

(Continued from page 1)

mittee, and Clark was standing in for him.

All major newsreels photographed Secretary of State George Marshall and President Truman addressing the sessions, stressing the importance of the United Nations to world peace.

MPAA's David Palfreyman will shortly ask all exhibitor organizations to urge their members to cooperate with local civic groups in observing U.N. Day. The association has also reminded educational groups of 21 films on the U.N. available for non-theatrical showing, and the MPAA's monthly bulletin, *What's Happening in Hollywood*, will ask community leaders to swing behind plans for observing U.N. Day.

Once was a Man, a Married Man..



Who couldn't see the danger



DORE SCHARY presents

LORETTA YOUNG • WILLIAM HOLDEN • ROBERT MITCHUM in

BROADWAY ENGAGEMENT AT

Until one day, one fateful day..



Along came a
Tall, Dark Stranger!



It's lovely Loretta's grand-
est role since her Academy
Award performance as
"The Farmer's Daughter"

Rachel and the Stranger

Produced by RICHARD H. BERGER • Directed by NORMAN FOSTER • Screenplay by WALDO SALT



BRANDT'S MAYFAIR THEATRE

Is divorcement coming? Will it help or hurt?

ARE WE HEADED FOR GOVERNMENT COMMISSION CONTROL?

CAN THERE BE PEACE THRU ARBITRATION?

Are we in the courts for life?

Can exhibition live under 20% Federal taxation?

CAN THEATRES CAPITALIZE ON TELEVISION?

What is the answer to the ASCAP problem?

HOW CAN 16 MM. COMPETITION BE MET?

What of the drive-in theatres?

CAN FILM TRANSPORTATION RATES BE CUT?

These and other vital questions
will be debated and studied
by operators of theatres, large
and small, in an honest search
for answers at the.....

NATIONAL CONVENTION

Theatre Owners of America

TED R. GAMBLE
President

Drake Hotel, Chicago—Sept. 24-25



ENTERTAINMENT, TOO!

For Men and Women

Theatre Screen Television
Demonstration...

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T. O. A. Night at Chicago
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Tours—Sporting Events

And other Special Events

Every exhibitor, regardless of affiliation—every industry leader, from whatever branch of our business—is cordially invited to participate in what promises to be the largest, most important gathering of theatre-men ever held . . . with nationally known speakers expressing their views along with yours.

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JOHN BALABAN**, General Convention Chairman,
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Accurate
Concise
and
Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

FIRST
IN
FILM
NEWS

Vol. 64. NO. 51

NEW YORK, U.S.A., MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 1948

TEN CENTS

Labor Board Rules AMPP Is 'Employer'

Decide Machinist Issue Against It and Studios

WASHINGTON, Sept. 12. — National Labor Relations Board on Friday ruled that the Association of Motion Picture Producers is an employer within the meaning of the National Labor Relations Act and determined that the producers' organization, along with Universal, Loew's, RKO and Warners had discriminated against members of the International Association of Machinists in the 1945-46 studio labor dispute. By virtue of its control over Hollywood's policies on labor relations, the AMPP was found to be an employer by the NLRB. The ruling sets a precedent.

The charge that machinists were dismissed in violation of the Labor Act was upheld even though this was done under pressure of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees which demanded to represent all industry machinists, the NLRB held.

The board ordered all parties to
(Continued on page 2)

Independents, AFM Adopt New Contract

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 12.—Terms of a new contract covering musicians employed by independent producers were agreed to on Friday by the independents and representatives of the American Federation of Musicians. The new pact, which will hold for the next 12 months and covers the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, Independent Motion Picture Producers Association, Eagle-Lion and Enter-

(Continued on page 2)

27 Delegates to Variety Meeting

WASHINGTON, Sept. 12.—Variety Club delegates to International Variety's mid-year conference, to be held here Sept. 16-18, were announced at the weekend by Carter Barron and Nate Golden, committee chairmen for the Washington Tent, as follows:

Pittsburgh, R. Clifton Daniel; Cincinnati, Allan Moritz; Detroit, Arthur Robinson; Buffalo, Dewey Michaels;

(Continued on page 3)

Seek Court Decree Divestiture of 2

A bid for a Federal Court decree directing Paramount and New England Theatres to divest themselves of two Connecticut theatres was included in an amended complaint filed in U. S. District Court here on Friday by Prudential Theatres and the Playhouse of New Canaan, Conn., in connection with their \$1,620,000 triple-damage anti-trust action against six distributors.

The Empress in South Norwalk and the Norwalk in Norwalk, jointly-owned by Paramount and N. E. Theatres, were named by the plaintiffs in their bid for a decree. The co-owners, it is alleged, "conspired to monopolize exhibition" in the operation of the houses.

Original complaint charges the six distributors and N. E. Theatres with having fixed unreasonable clearances and "double clearances," and with having "conspired" in violation of the anti-trust laws.

Windsor Moves in Walbrook Action

WASHINGTON, Sept. 12. — The Windsor Theatre of Baltimore will ask Federal District Court here early this week for permission to intervene in the action whereby the Walbrook Theatre, also of Baltimore, is trying to enjoin 20th Century-Fox from giving half of its first neighborhood runs to the Windsor.

Fox made this promise to the Windsor in an out-of-court settlement of the Windsor's \$600,000 anti-trust suit against 20th-Fox and five other major distributors. Argument on Walbrook's request for the injunction is set for Sept. 16. The agreement is slated to become operative on Sept. 19.

The Windsor will also ask that the
(Continued on page 3)

New UA Sales Unit; J. Hughes in Charge

United Artists has established a new sales unit to liquidate dormant exhibition contracts and explore unsold situations with John Hughes, former assistant to Fred Jack when the latter was Southwest district manager, in charge. Hughes returned to the home office recently from Dallas. Jack is now UA's Western general sales manager.

It is understood that Hughes, who will operate out of the home office, under Paul N. Lazarus, Jr., executive assistant to Gradwell Sears, president, will spend substantial time visiting branch areas throughout the country investigating difficult selling situations.

COURT SAYS ASCAP CANNOT COLLECT

M. P. Colosseum, Take Note!

Eric A. Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association of America, told the United Press in Stockholm on Friday that he was flying to Moscow for a visit of three to five days "to sell American pictures."

K.C. Allied to Testify At Monopoly Quiz

KANSAS CITY, Sept. 12.—The board of Allied Independent Theatre Owners of Kansas and Missouri will appear before a hearing to be conducted here on Wednesday by the House Committee on Small Business on monopoly practices in the motion picture industry.

The board of the Allied unit, meanwhile, has been advising its members on procedure for preparing complaints to be submitted to the House group. Congressman Ploesser, chairman of the group, will conduct the hearing.

Screen Guild Dickers For Its Own Studio

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 12.—Screen Guild is negotiating for its own studio space, it was announced here by Robert L. Lippert, president.

With Screen Guild's production program calling for five pictures every two months in full swing and financing for forthcoming product completed, studio space when needed is necessary to avoid production delays generally caused by previous commitments in independent studios, the company stated.

Rauland To Withhold Theatre Television

CHICAGO, Sept. 12.—Contending that he does not believe the motion picture industry is "ready" for his new theatre television equipment, E. N. Rauland, president of Rauland Television Co., states here that he is not prepared to deal with theatres domestically, as yet.

Rauland, who has already equipped a number of J. Arthur Rank's houses in London, indicated that he will wait for the outcome of those installations before dealing with theatres here.

Society's Members Must Deal with Producers, It Says, Upholding Berger

MINNEAPOLIS, Sept. 12.—American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers took its second Federal Court defeat in as many months at the hands of independent exhibitors when U. S. District Court Judge Gunnar Nordbye on Friday handed down a decision in favor of Benjamin Berger, president of North Central Allied here, which, local attorneys say, denies Ascap members the right to collect fees from exhibitors.

The court held that while the individual copyright owners have the right to collect for public performance of their music, they cannot exercise the right while joined together in an illegal combination. Judge Nordbye held that Ascap is such a combination because, in its dealings with exhibitors, it had extended its authority beyond the provisions of the Federal Copyright Act.

Although it did not appear that Judge Nordbye had taken into consideration the recent decision by Fed-

(Continued on page 3)

Minn. Ascap Ruling Is Hailed by Myers

WASHINGTON, Sept. 12.—"Judge Leibell's decision spelled the doom of Ascap, Judge Nordbye's decision smashes Ascap to smithereens," Allied States Association general counsel Abram F. Myers exulted over the Minneapolis judge's action in the Berger cases.

Myers said that he had not seen Judge Nordbye's decision, but that he could "not forego saying that it must

(Continued on page 3)

Negotiate At Once, SOPEG Demands

Refusal of seven distributors to negotiate new contracts with CIO's Screen Office and Professional Employees Guild, because the union has not complied with the non-Communist affidavit provisions of the Taft-Hartley Law, was met at the weekend by written demands by SOPEG for an immediate meeting with the companies

(Continued on page 2)

Personal Mention

MORT BLUMENSTOCK, Warner advertising-publicity vice-president, will leave New York tomorrow for the Coast.

SAMUEL N. BURGER, Loew International sales manager, left here at the weekend for a four-month tour of the company's branches throughout the world. **EDWARD F. O'CONNOR**, regional director for the Far East, is accompanying him on the first leg of the trip, from New York to India.

MAURICE A. BERGMAN, Universal-International Eastern advertising-publicity director, and **CHARLES SIMONELLI**, Eastern exploitation manager, left New York at the weekend for Chicago and Columbus.

A. J. O'KEEFE, Universal-International assistant general sales manager, left here over the weekend by plane for Los Angeles.

EDWIN W. AARON, M-G-M assistant general sales manager, left here over the weekend for a Coast vacation.

ALBERT MANNHEIMER, Film Classics director of exchange operations, left New York last night for Milwaukee and Chicago.

EILEEN SCULLY, Hollywood, daughter of film director **BILL SCULLY**, is here visiting Altec's **BERT SANFORD** and Mrs. **SANFORD**, her uncle and aunt.

VICTOR SAVILLE, M-G-M director, will leave here tomorrow for London on the *SS Queen Mary*.

AL ZIMBALIST, Film Classics advertising-publicity chief, flew to Chicago over the weekend from New York.

20th-Fox Group on Coast

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 12.—Delegates to the 20th Century-Fox national sales conference arrived here over the weekend to discuss sales and promotion plans on productions to be released during the next 12 months. The convention will run from Tuesday through Friday.

Para., DuMont, WB in FCC Parley Today

Washington, Sept. 12.—Paramount, DuMont and Warners will be among the firms participating tomorrow in an informal conference with the Federal Communications Commission on future FCC procedure for allocating television outlets. **Paul Raibourn**, will represent Paramount, **Dr. Thomas Goldsmith** will represent DuMont and the law firm of **Cohn and Marks** will appear for Warners.

SOPEG Demands

(Continued from page 1)

to negotiate 1948 contracts without "ultimatums."

SOPEG president **Sidney Young**, signer of the weekend communications, pointed out that his union had already voted three-to-one against complying with the non-Communist affidavit provisions, and accused the companies of using this as a pretext to avoid granting job security and raises.

Charges Companies 'Interfere'

Charging the companies with "interference in our American and democratic right to decide our own affairs," Young's letters added, in part: "You cannot direct our officers to comply at your dictation. Our officers take direction from the membership, not the employers. We expect employers to respect the formal, democratic expression of their employees." Complying with "the voluntary provisions of Taft-Hartley is an interference with our democratic right to run our organization," Young asserted.

NSS Expected to Resist

Companies addressed were Columbia, Columbia International, Loew's, Paramount, Republic, RKO Radio, RKO Service Corp. and 20th-Fox. Meanwhile, a spokesman for National Screen said his company planned to join with the distributors opposing SOPEG and its sister union, Screen Publicists Guild. A Confidential Reports spokesman said at the weekend that that company had "no position" to state in the more or less wholesale industry management situation against negotiating with the two unions. At a late hour on Friday Universal-International continued to remain non-committal regarding its future plans in connection with SPG, whose president, **Jeff Livingston**, conducted weekend strategy meetings.

H-63, Warners Meeting Today As Impasse Threatens Talks

New contract negotiations between Warners and IATSE Motion Picture Home Office Employees Local No. H-63, reportedly at an impasse stage, will be resumed this morning, according to the union. H-63 has been pressing for wage increases and improved working conditions for "white collarists" in negotiations which have been conducted for several weeks with not only Warners, but also Universal, Pathe Laboratories, United World Films, Castle Films, Ace Laboratories, Universal Newsreel, and Warner and M-G-M music publishing houses.

Whatever new arrangement is concluded between the union and Warners, it is said, is expected to apply ultimately to the other companies.

Ask 'Rope' Ban Review

CHICAGO, Sept. 12.—Warner Brothers has taken action against the Chicago Censor Board's banning of "Rope" here in the form of a letter to chief of police **Thomas Prendergrast** requesting him to review the film a second time. According to **Capt. Harry Fulmer**, Censor Board chief, the film was banned because it is not "wholesome" entertainment.

20th-Fox Sets Five Video Subsidiaries

Five subsidiaries of 20th Century-Fox are now organized for television operations and will be ready to go if and when station licenses are obtainable.

The television companies are 20th-Fox of Washington, 20th-Fox of California, 20th-Fox of Missouri, 20th-Fox of St. Louis and 20th-Fox of New England.

17,831 Bookings Set Para. Drive Record

"Paramount Week," which ended Saturday, set a record of 17,831 bookings for at least one Paramount subject, with five districts and 26 branches booked solid. In 1947, the Paramount trademark was on 17,009 screens during the drive, the company stated.

Paramount features that made possible the record are "The Emperor Waltz," "Dream Girl," "So Evil My Love," "Foreign Affair" and "Beyond Glory."

Rembusch, Carroll To Direct Caravan

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 12.—Operations of national Allied's product survey "Caravan" hereafter will be under the supervision and direction of **Truman T. Rembusch** and **William A. Carroll**. Meanwhile, Caravan headquarters have been transferred from Philadelphia to Indianapolis, the Caravan committee having accepted the invitation of the board of the Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana in that respect.

Joseph Citron, 49, With Loew 10 Years

Joseph L. Citron, 49, of Manhattan, manager of Loew's Olympia, passed away Thursday of a heart attack.

Citron had been connected with Loew Theatres for 10 years, starting as an assistant manager of Loew's 46th Street in 1938. Services were held Friday at Riverside Memorial Chapel, with interment in Beth David Cemetery, Elmont. He is survived by the widow, **Tillie**, and two daughters, **Roberta** and **Lucille**.

Labor Board Rules

(Continued from page 1)

cease and desist from discouraging membership in the international machinists union in any manner. The four studios were directed to reinstate, with back pay, discharged members of the union, and the producers association was told to notify all member studios that the latter should not interfere with any labor organization memberships of their employees.

The Board found against the machinists' union in rejecting its charge that the studios failed to bargain in good faith and declared that bonuses paid to members who worked during the 1945-46 dispute was not illegal.

Newsreel Parade

THE opening of the presidential campaign and the new Dutch Queen, **Juliana**, taking over are current newsreel highlights. Other items include sports and human interest stories. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 73—Presidential campaign opens: Truman in Detroit; Stassen answers the President. Queen **Juliana** abdicates, **Juliana** succeeds, vest Moon ball. Sports: Tennis, football, shooting rapids.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 203—Presidential battle of 1948 gets underway. **Juliana** abdicates; Dutch hail new Queen **Juliana**. Jitterbugs jump at Harvest Moon ball. Davis cup victory for U. S.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 6—Harvest Moon ball. Truman, Stassen open verbal blasts. **Juliana** takes over.

UNIVERSAL NEWS, No. 177—Politics: Truman opens campaign, Stassen replies. **Juliana** takes Dutch throne. Thrills at air races. Harvest Moon dance. Labor Day celebrated.

WARNER PATHE NEWS, No. 8—New Dutch Queen. Truman in Detroit; answered by Stassen. Man who grows seven inches at will. Air races. Great Americans: **John Marshall**.

Johnston Cites PCA In Reply on 'Twist'

The New York Board of Rabbis, which protested by cable to Motion Picture Association of America president **Eric A. Johnston** in Paris against **J. Arthur Rank Eagle-Lion's** "Oliver Twist," has received the following cable reply from Johnston: "I have your cable protesting against the showing of the picture, 'Oliver Twist.' My New York and Hollywood offices have advised me that the picture has not yet been submitted to our Production Code Administration for a certificate of approval. It would be inappropriate for me to express an opinion in advance of its submission to the Code authority."

Assailing the film as a "vehicle of blatant anti-Semitism," the Rabbis had asked Johnston to "do everything possible" to keep it out of the U. S.

Final NSS Meetings In 2 Cities Today

Last of the regional sales meetings for the "Dembow Tribute Drive," honoring **George F. Dembow**, National Screen Service sales vice-president, will be held today in Atlanta and Dallas. **William Bein**, Eastern drive captain, will head the Atlanta conclave, and **Ben Ashe**, Western captain, the Dallas meeting. The drive will start today at all NSS exchanges.

Independents, AFM

(Continued from page 1)

prise, retains the wage levels and working conditions in force under the pact which expired last month.

The only significant change is the substitution of the permanent orchestra clause by a provision that the producers guarantee the use of 35,000 man-hours of work for musicians annually. The independents used about 50,000 man-hours last year collectively.

Also provided for in the new contract is the use of a stipulated minimum number of musicians on pictures in several budgetary categories.

Ascap Clipped

(Continued from page 1)

eral Judge Vincent L. Leibell holding Ascap to be in violation of the anti-trust laws in the case brought by members of the Independent Theatre Owners Association of New York, there is some similarity in the conclusions reached by the two jurists.

Like Judge Leibell, Judge Nordbye in the case here suggested that the procedure to be followed by a copyright owner who would collect for the performing rights to his music in motion pictures is to deal individually with producers.

See End Put to Collections

The decision is interpreted here as putting an end to collections by either individual Ascap members, or by the Society itself, from exhibitor parties to the case. As such, it stands as a precedent for exhibitors everywhere, unless reversed on appeal.

The decision also is regarded here as even more sweeping than the New York decision against Ascap. In the latter case, it was the Society which was held to be in violation of the anti-trust laws and its methods of dealing with exhibitors which were held to be illegal. That left individual members of Ascap free to obtain licenses from exhibitors or to sue them for copyright infringements if they used film music without licenses.

Judge Nordbye's decision closes that gap. It is directed against Ascap's individual members and denies them the right to collect from or sue exhibitors so long as they are members of Ascap. In this respect, it would appear either to force individual copyright owners

Review

"Miss Tatlock's Millions"

(Paramount)

CHUCKLES always prove their worth at the box-office, and "Miss Tatlock's Millions" runs the whole gamut of laughter, from subtle to silly. Producer Charles Brackett assembled a large and competent cast, with the result that some splendidly funny characterizations emerge from this farce about a curious family's excited scramble for the millions left by the elder Tatlock. Framework and development of the story are more or less along formula lines, but they keep the laughs coming. Heading the persuasive cast are John Lund, Wanda Hendrix, Barry Fitzgerald, Monty Woolley and Ilka Chase.

A multitude of complications are incubated when worthy-minded Fitzgerald persuades Lund to impersonate an enfeebled heir to millions. Lund puts on a good act at being feeble-minded, and between the acts he falls in love with Miss Hendrix who is supposed to be his "sister." In the meantime there mushroom all sorts of avaricious conspiracies by the assorted relatives who are bent on getting the fortune. When circumstances get inextricably tangled, the real heir finally shows up to clear the muddle and pave the way for Lund to marry Miss Hendrix.

Fitzgerald as a bottle-guzzling rascal is always a solid delight, while Woolley and Miss Crane get in some sophisticated licks as the fortune seekers. Miss Hendrix is pretty to watch, especially when she turns on the angelic expression for the lucky Lund. Richard Haydn directed from a screenplay by Brackett and Richard L. Breen.

Running time, 101 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Nov. 19.

MANDEL HERBSTMAN

to deal with producers for performing rights or, if they are to collect from exhibitors for those rights, it would be necessary for them to withdraw from Ascap.

Ascap Suit Filed in 1946

The Berger suit originated in 1946 when Ascap members, rather than the Society, sued Berger, independent circuit operator, and Mrs. Jessie Jensen, who operated a theatre at White Bear, Minn., for non-payment of performing rights fees. Berger admitted on the

stand during the trial last fall that he had not paid the fees nor obtained an Ascap license for years, contending that the Ascap collection method was illegal.

The court ruled in favor of the defendants on all counts.

Ascap officials declined to comment on Judge Nordbye's decision on Friday on the grounds they had not yet received a copy of it.

Myers Hails Ruling

(Continued from page 1)

end all doubt as to the propriety of withholding payments from Ascap.

"The decision is a clear signal to all Ascap members," Myers said, "that they should get out of Ascap, and get out fast." The only thing now left to Ascap members, he declared, is to leave Ascap and individually deal with the producers for royalties on public performing rights.

Without reading the complete Minneapolis decision, Myers declared, it must go a step beyond the New York decision. There, he said, Judge Leibell held Ascap's contracts with theatre owners were unenforceable "but the Berger suits involve not Ascap but individual members of Ascap. This can only mean that any individual copyright owner—so long as he belongs to an illegal combination like Ascap—can't collect from theatre owners on public performing rights. They have the rights, but they can't collect unless they leave Ascap and negotiate with the producers. This means the break-up of Ascap, I have no doubt."

Myers, who has been closely associated with the legal master-minding of the Berger case, was obviously overjoyed at Judge Nordbye's decision, and gibed that it "certainly leaves Theatre Owners of America general counsel Herman Levy out on a limb."

Vog Sets Cocteau Tour

American distribution rights to the French film, "The Eagle with Two Heads," has been acquired by Vog Films here. In connection with the premiere of the film, Vog will sponsor in October the American tour of Jean Cocteau, French author, who produced and directed the film.

Rallies 16 mm. Field Against Price Cuts

Declaring "war" against roadshowmen who are cutting prices of established 16mm. schedules, Jacques Kopfshtein, vice-president of Astor Pictures, has called leading 16mm. distributors in New York to a luncheon-meeting at the Astor Hotel tomorrow to discuss the "growing menace of price cutting which is strangling the 16mm. industry."

Roadshow practices, says Kopfshtein, have reached a point where it is imperative for the "Big Six"—Astor, Commonwealth, United World, Film Highlights, Post and Pictorial—to decide upon a future course of action "to combat wanton price cutting and other violations of established dealings within the framework of the 16mm. industry."

"The luncheon," says Kopfshtein, "may well go down in picture annals as the turning point in the fight against eliminating the present 'throat-cutting' policies employed in certain sections of the country."

Delegates to Variety

(Continued from page 1)

Albany, Neil Hellman and Harry Lamont; Indianapolis, Sam Switow; Washington, Nate Golden; Minneapolis, William Elson; Philadelphia, Alfred Davis; Omaha, M. G. Rogers; Dallas, William O'Donnell; Dayton, Roy E. Wells; Memphis, Herbert Kohn; Atlanta, Bill Jenkins; Boston, Murray Weiss; Charlotte, J. H. Dillon; Los Angeles, W. H. Lollier; Chicago, Jack Rose; Grand Rapids, Herbert Boshoven; Toronto, J. J. Fitzgibbons; Mexico City, Louis Montes; Toledo, Jack E. Lykes; New Haven, Barney Pitkin; San Francisco, Jimmie O'Neal; Miami, George Hoover; Houston, J. P. Goodwin.

Acceptances from many industry executives of invitations to attend the conference and Humanitarian Award dinner were also announced.

Majority of the executives will reach Washington on Sept. 16 to attend a dinner to be given by Richard C. Fowler to R. J. O'Donnell and will remain for a Friday luncheon meeting at which the Saranac Lake Sanatorium will be discussed, and the Humanitarian Award banquet on Saturday night when George C. Marshall will receive the 1947 Award.

Windsor Move

(Continued from page 1)

Walbrook motion for a preliminary injunction be denied, that further proceedings on the Walbrook motion be consolidated with proceedings in the Windsor's anti-trust suit, that the Walbrook be required to appear as a defendant in the anti-trust action, and that no preliminary injunction be issued in favor of the Walbrook unless it gives security of \$250,000 to indemnify the Windsor for any loss from being deprived of the films it is slated to get from Fox under the settlement.

Walbrook said the Fox settlement breached a contract with the Walbrook whereby Fox promised to give it the same films it gave the competing Ambassador. Windsor will claim that this interpretation claims a long-term franchise, "and that such franchises have been declared unlawful by the Supreme Court."

The Windsor petition will be filed tomorrow or Tuesday by Windsor attorney Harold Schilz.

No extra fare on American's DC-6 Flagships!



Ride the famous "Mercury" flight to Los Angeles at no increase in cost!

On September 1st, DC-6 and Constellation fares were raised 10 per cent by the transcontinental air lines—with the single exception of American Airlines. On American, you can enjoy luxurious DC-6 service at no increase in cost!

"The Mercury," departing

daily at midnight, EDT and arriving in Los Angeles at 8:10 a.m. PDT, will continue to provide transcontinental travelers with the finest in air travel—at the same fare—only \$157.85. "The Mercury" now has eight roomy Skysleeper berths to supplement 36 seat accommodations.

Phone HAVemeyer 6-5000 or your travel agent

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AMERICAN AIRLINES

Leo McCarey, Producer of "The
St. Mary's" Brings Another Great Pic

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL!

RAINBOW
PRODUCTIONS, INC.
presents

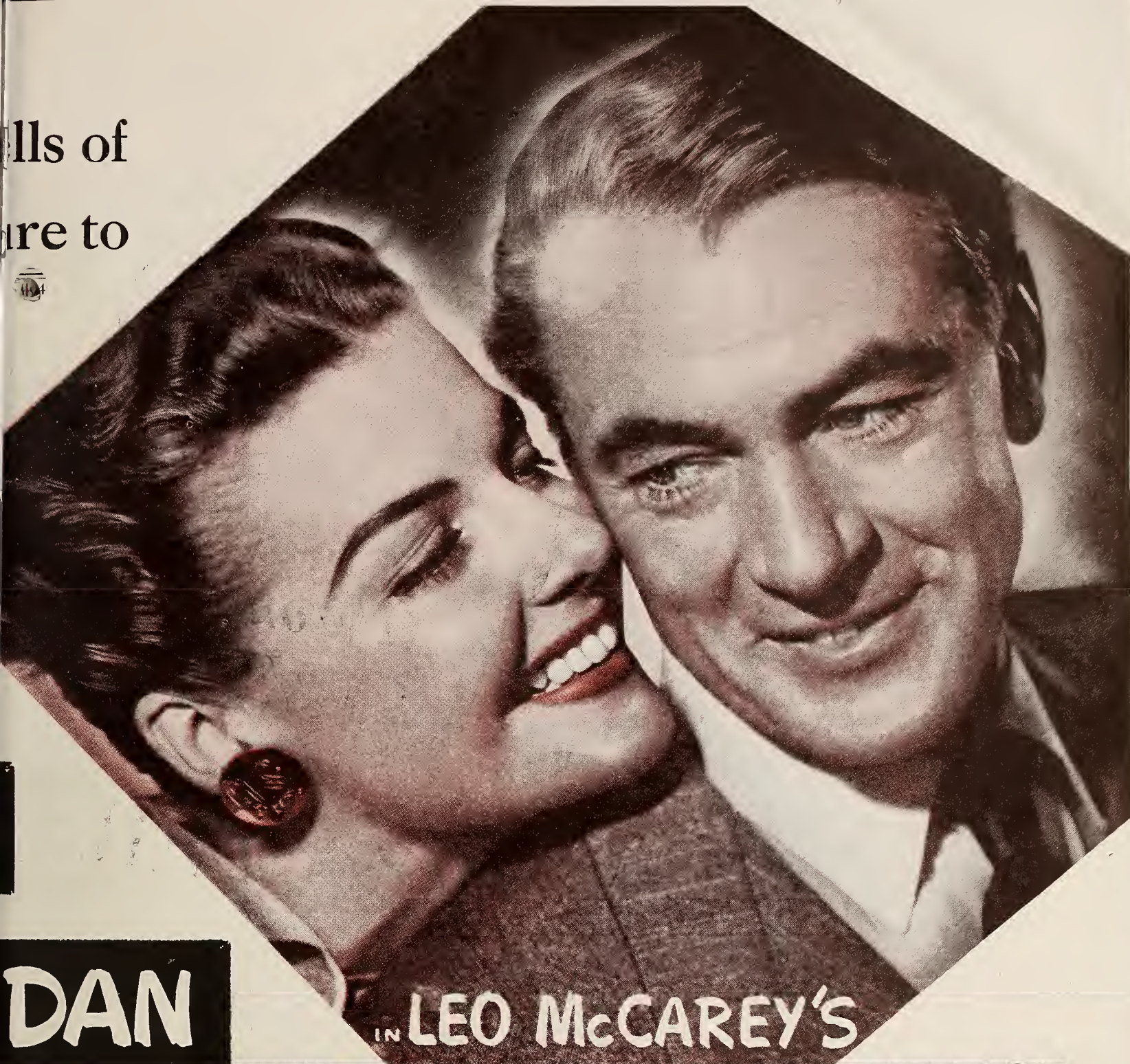
GARY COOPER

ANN SHER



with RAY COLLINS • EDMUND LOW

lls of
re to



DAN

IN LEO McCAREY'S

GOOD SAM

JOAN LORRING • CLINTON SUNDBERG • PRODUCED AND DIRECTED BY LEO McCAREY • Screenplay by KEN ENGLUND



Boxoffice says:

"Should BEAT the
boxoffice success of
'Miracle On 34th Street'!"

and

in Portland, Spokane
and Atlantic City, it's
BEATING the grosses
of 'Sitting Pretty'!

and

in St. Louis it's
BEATING
'The Walls of
Jericho' and 'The
Foxes of Harrow'!

Every showman says:

YOU CAN'T BEAT

20
CENTURY-FOX



Tyrone
POWER

Anne
BAXTER



*The Luck
of The Irish*

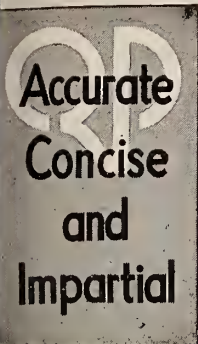
CECIL KELLAWAY • LEE J. COBB

James Todd • Jayne Meadows • J.M. Kerrigan • Phil Brown • Charles Irwin

Directed by HENRY KOSTER • Produced by FRED KOHLMAR

Screen Play by Philip Dunne • Based on a Novel by Guy and Constance Jones

THE NATIONAL
DEFENDS



MOTION PICTURE DAILY



NO. 52

NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1948

TEN CENTS

Availability Dates Set by 20th Yr. Ahead

Plan Subject to Any Decree, Smith Reports

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 13.—For the first time since the inception of the company's new selling methods, 20th Century-Fox is ready to offer definite availability dates of its product, picture by picture, for 12 months in advance, Andy W. Smith, Jr., general sales manager, told delegates at the opening of the company's four-day national sales conference here today.

He added that the offer is subject to compliance with any applicable court decree and ultimate execution of appropriate film licenses on a picture by picture basis.

Smith said the company had achieved a point in production and distribution that made this offer possible.

"This is the first time that any motion picture company has been able

(Continued on page 8)

U-I Joins Others In Boycott of SPG

Film industry management in New York tightened up against the Screen Publicists Guild further yesterday when Universal-International joined eight other companies which last week informed SPG, and its sister union, the Screen Office and Professional Employees Guild, that their failure to comply with the non-Communist

(Continued on page 3)

Cinema Lodge Will Honor Si Fabian

Simon H. Fabian, president of Fabian Theatres, will be honored by New York's Cinema Lodge of B'nai B'rith for his "outstanding service to humanity" at a special meeting at the Hotel Astor, next Tuesday evening, S. Arthur Glixon, president of the Lodge, announces.

Fabian, who recently served as New York State chairman for the entertainment industry's participation in the United Jewish Appeal drive, and last year as entertainment industry chairman of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies drive, will be presented with Cinema's "Honor Scroll" by Samuel Rinzler, president of Randforce Theatres.

N. Y. 1st-Run Grosses Off

Beaches and other resorts got another good play over the weekend, parents made ready for their youngsters' return to school, and nearly all films were holdovers, all of these factors apparently combining to force grosses at several New York first-runs down to levels substantially under last week's prosperous returns.

The lone newcomer, "Luxury Liner," with Gene Krupa's orchestra and Georgie Price on stage at the Capitol, is faring well with a first week's take of \$83,000 indicated. "Sorry, Wrong Number," with Carmen Cavallaro in person at the Paramount continues to be one of the best which the theatre has had in months, the second week's income being estimated at \$100,000 after a huge \$111,000 in

(Continued on page 8)

AA-Mono. Sets 61 For '48-9: Broidy

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 13.—Citing the success of Allied Artists' "The Babe Ruth Story" and an anticipated shortage in product through curtailments by other studios and the consequent demand by exhibitors for "second pictures," Steve Broidy, president of Monogram-Allied Artists, today disclosed that both companies will increase their production schedules for the 1948-49 season.

Monogram, which produced 42 last year, will make 51 during the coming season, while AA, which previously made six pictures, will produce 10, he said, adding that an undetermined

(Continued on page 3)

"Johnny Belinda"

[Warner] — A Very First-Class Drama

JANE WYMAN'S illuminating performance will be talked about widely once "Johnny Belinda" gets under way. While she literally shines in a very difficult role, the attraction which she well high dominates has considerable merit on its own.

Out of Elmer Harris' play Irmgard von Cube and Allen Vincent have worked out a sensible and intelligent script dealing with material explosive enough to make many producers gun-shy. In such firm hands as Jerry Wald's, who produced, and Jean Negulesco's, who directed, and a top-grade cast, the outcome is one of decided merit and dramatic power. Adult in its appeal, "Johnny Belinda" in all likelihood will prove to be one of those infrequent films combining a popular attraction—particularly for women—with an appeal for those who only part with their money when Hollywood delivers for discriminating grown-ups.

Miss Wyman is the deaf mute daughter of Charles Bickford, farmer fighting adversity on Cape Breton Island at the Eastern extremity of Nova Scotia. Neither he nor his sister, Agnes Moorehead, interest themselves in her welfare. A drudge bearing her share of the heavy chores,

(Continued on page 8)

Ascap Decree In NY Sept. 29

American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers on Sept. 29 will submit to the New York Federal Court its proposed decree giving effect to the court's decision enjoining the Society from collecting music fees from motion picture theatres, it was disclosed here yesterday. A court session is scheduled for Oct. 5, with attorneys for the Society and ITOA exhibitor plaintiffs in the anti-trust action joining with Judge Vincent L. Leibell in a discussion of the court's order. Whether this will take the form of an open hearing or an informal conference in the judge's chambers is not known.

Meanwhile comment on the Minneapolis Federal Court's decision against Ascap, handed down last Fri-

(Continued on page 8)

1st Joint Percentage Suits in Carolina

ASHEVILLE, N. C., Sept. 13.—Six distributors filed percentage suits here today in U. S. District Court for the Western District of North Carolina, Asheville division. Actions were filed by Paramount, 20th Century-Fox, Warner, RKO, United Artists and Universal.

C. V. Davis, W. I. Davis and F. W. Davis, doing business as the Alva Theatre Co., are defendants, as well as Elsie B. House and Marion Amusement Co. Theatres named in the complaint are the Mimosa and Alva in Morganton, and the Marion and Oasis in Marion. These are the first suits of this type in the Carolina area.

Map Plan to Recover Fees Paid to Ascap

Counsel Sets Strategy For NCA Directors

MINNEAPOLIS, Sept. 13. — A "plan" for the recovery of performing fees paid by independent exhibitors here to the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers will be laid before directors of North Central Allied immediately by Louis B. Schwartz, local attorney, in consequence of the Federal court decision here last Friday holding Ascap's collections from theatres to be illegal.

Schwartz, in association with Samuel P. Halperin, represented Bennie Berger, NCA president, and Mrs. Jessie Jensen, defendant exhibitors, in the Ascap case decided in the exhibitors' favor by Federal Judge Gunnar Nordbye.

At the same time, Stanley Kane, NCA executive director, said no stone will be left unturned to recover fees collected by Ascap. He said few theatres here have paid fees to Ascap

(Continued on page 8)

SIMPP to Clark: Press NY Para. Case

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 13.—Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers has called upon U. S. Attorney General Tom Clark to press the Government's anti-trust suit against the distributors to an ultimate court decision, SIMPP vice-president Gunther Lessing, in a weekend telegram to Clark (a copy of which was sent to President Truman) said: "We are informed that negotiations are in progress where major motion picture company defendants in the anti-trust case . . . are attempting to avoid the

(Continued on page 3)

E - K, Gov't Discuss A Consent Decree

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 13.—Federal Judge C. Mathes has postponed the pre-trial conference of the Government's anti-trust suit against Technicolor and Eastman-Kodak from Sept. 20 to Nov. 20 on a motion by the Department of Justice here following receipt of instructions from Washington. Cited in the instructions from the Capital were conferences between the Justice Department's anti-trust division and Eastman-Kodak officials on a possible consent decree.

Personal Mention

MAURICE GOLDSTEIN, Allied Artists-Monogram general sales manager, will leave here today for Pittsburgh.

FREDERICK BRISSON, Independent Artists executive producer, who is here from the Coast, was in Philadelphia last night. He will return to Hollywood next week.

JOAN GOLDING, publicist for Margaret Ettinger Co., industry public relations company, will be married to **MARVIN MACHSON** on Oct. 17 in White Plains, N. Y.

NORMAN BARNETT of Massco-Barnett Co. here and **MRS. BARNETT** have become parents of a son, born on Saturday at Women's Hospital, New York.

BERNARD J. GATES, Monogram Latin-American supervisor, left here by plane over the weekend for Montevideo.

JESSIKA KOLKAN, secretary to Paramount attorney **MORTON LANE**, and **HENRY R. CHUCK** have announced their engagement.

AL ZIMBALIST, Film Classics' advertising-publicity head, returned here yesterday from Chicago.

ANDRE KOSTALANETZ and his wife, **LILY PONS**, returned here yesterday from Europe on the *SS Queen Mary*.

Monroe Trust Suit Hearings Sept. 20

CHICAGO, Sept. 13.—Preliminary hearings on Balaban and Katz's objections to plaintiff's interrogatories in the Monroe Theatre anti-trust suit involving \$1,580,000 treble damages against 14 film and theatre corporations are scheduled for Sept. 20 in Judge Phillip Barnes' U. S. District Court. The plaintiff, Lubliner and Triniz, formerly operated the Monroe in the Loop.

Chicago's Censors Re-classify 'Rope'

CHICAGO, Sept. 13. — Warner's "Rope" was today given an "adults only" classification by the Chicago Police Censor Board. The board last week banned the film for local showing. Ben Kalmenson, Warner sales vice-president, spent several days here negotiating with the board. The film is scheduled for a Loop showing in October at a Balaban and Katz theatre.

Jeffrey Leaves E-L

Arthur Jeffrey, exploitation manager of Eagle-Lion since its inception two years ago, has resigned, effective in October. Max E. Youngstein, E-L advertising-publicity vice-president, said yesterday a successor to Jeffrey will be appointed shortly.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

THE Minneapolis Federal Court decision in the Ascap-Berger case appears to be of even greater significance to exhibitors than the New York court decision two months earlier in the case brought by members of the Independent Theatre Owners Association of New York.

The ITOA members sued Ascap as a monopoly in violation of the anti-trust laws and won. The court held, however, in denying exhibitor plaintiffs damages from Ascap, that the early performing rights fees levied by the Society had been reasonable and that exhibitors had received something of value for the license fees paid to Ascap.

The Minneapolis case involved actions brought by members of Ascap to obtain damages from exhibitors who had refused to pay any Ascap fee whatever and freely used films containing Ascap music without licenses. The actions also sought injunctions to restrain the exhibitors from exhibiting such films without Ascap licenses in the future. The court denied both petitions, ruling in favor of the exhibitor defendants on all counts.

If early interpretations of the Minneapolis decision are correct, it would seem not only to invite exhibitors to halt payments to Ascap immediately but also to leave the door open for recovery of fees already paid to Ascap.

However, both the New York and Minneapolis cases are "private" litigation. They lack the breadth of application which would be theirs had the Government, representing the public, been involved. Also, their value as precedent is dubious pending determination of appeals.

It is interesting to note that in both cases the courts made a point of citing Ascap's ability to levy an exorbitant fee from exhibitors for performing rights licenses as evidence of the possession of illegal monopolistic power.

As this department pointed out earlier, that evidence was furnished the courts by Ascap itself when it sought to raise performing rights fees by 300 to 1,500 per cent a year ago. That was the most ill-advised of all Ascap actions in the history of its dealings with exhibitors. It appears now to have

been a blessing in disguise for theatre owners for by it Ascap stands convicted, twice.

Attorney General Tom Clark told **MOTION PICTURE DAILY** recently that although his Department has not received any formal proposals for a consent decree from defendants in the Paramount case, "if they want to talk we would be bull-headed to refuse."

Along about last June when the exploration of the subject of a consent decree was raised among industry defendants, Attorney General Clark packaged the case with some finality by publicly listing it among the important "accomplishments" of the Justice Department during his tenure. At the same time he brushed aside consent decree reports as "just trade talk," inferring that there was no basis for an agreement on a decree because the case had been won already by the Government.

On June 1 this department commented that it appeared to be a case of the Government protesting too much and suggested that any good horse trader would recognize in Clark's comments an invitation to open up consent decree talks in order that the case might be filed away in the drawer marked "settled," before January and, possibly, before a new Attorney General arrived.

It would seem that the industry's horse-traders are moving too slowly to suit the Department, which now is out in the open. It has not received any proposals yet but it does not want to be "bull-headed" when they come. Not with elections only two months away.

Loew's and United Artists Theatre Circuit are 50-50 owners of a company which controls the Louisville Theatre, Louisville, Ky. The Louisville company borrowed \$1,000,000 from First National Bank of Boston and Massachusetts Mutual Life, Loew's guaranteeing the loans, but—if Loew's is required by subsequent action in the Paramount case to dispose of its interest, U. A. Theatre Circuit will repay Loew's any loss it may incur in consequence of its guarantee, before and after withdrawing from the partnership.

An example, perhaps, of a New Look in joint operations.

'Hamlet' in Capital On Four-Wall Basis

WASHINGTON, Sept. 13.—Laurence Olivier's "Hamlet," British-made, will open here Oct. 20 at roadshow prices at both the Little and Playhouse theatres, Universal-International announced here today. Both theatres are owned by Ilya Lopert and Louise Noonan Miller.

"Hamlet" will play on a two-a-day reserved-seat basis, with evening tickets costing \$2.40 and matinees \$1.50. At present, the Playhouse charges 65 cents evenings and 55 for matinees, while the Little charges 74 and 50 cents.

The Lopert-Miller theatres got "Hamlet" on an "adjusted four-wall basis." The theatres will get a share in grosses over a minimum four-wall figure, plus adjustments for increases in overhead and other expenses. It is understood here that Lopert-Miller offered a flat \$100,000 for "Hamlet," but the four-wall deal finally worked out, which it is understood is more to Universal-International's advantage.

Kusell to Preside At SRO Meeting

Milton S. Kusell, SRO sales vice-president, will preside at a meeting of division managers to be held Thursday at the home office.

Following executives and division managers will attend: Sidney Deneau, assistant sales manager; Leonard R. Case, treasurer; John T. Howard, Western division manager; J. E. Fontaine, Eastern manager; Henry G. Krumm, Southern manager; Sam Horowitz, Midwestern manager, and Robert M. Gillham, Eastern advertising-publicity director.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center

"A DATE WITH JUDY"

Wallace BEERY	Jane POWELL
Elizabeth TAYLOR	Carmen MIRANDA
Xavier CUGAT	Robert STACK

A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

Barbara Stanwyck
Burt Lancaster

"SORRY, WRONG NUMBER"

A Paramount Release
PARAMOUNT

in Person **CARMEN CAVALLARO** and His Orchestra
THE MARTIN BROTHERS
JACK E. LEONARD

PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

ROSALIND RUSSELL
in
"THE VELVET TOUCH"

A FREDERICK BRISSON PRODUCTION
Released through RKO

RIVOLI B'way & 49th St.

Would Exempt Video Outlets on Changes

WASHINGTON, Sept. 13.—Testimony from top television officials seemed to add up today to the belief that any changes in television engineering standards should not be made to apply to stations already in the field.

Officials of television associations, networks, stations, and equipment manufacturers attended an informal advisory conference with the Federal Communications Commission today, to give industry views on new engineering standards, proposed television channel reallocations and other television problems.

Changes in standards are desirable, said Dr. Raymond Guy, of the Television Broadcasters Association. But pioneers in television, with large investments in stations and equipment, should not have to conform to whatever these new standards may be, he declared.

Paramount vice-president Paul Raibourn, originally scheduled to testify, called off his appearance at the last minute, and Paramount was not represented.

Nathan Levenson of Warners was an observer, but did not testify. Allen B. DuMont and Dr. Theodore Goldsmith of Allen B. DuMont Laboratories are slated to testify tomorrow.

Reade Managers Meet

District and city managers of Walter Reade Theatres will meet here today at the home office for their regular monthly session.

AA-Mono. Sets 61

(Continued from page 1)

number of films to be made abroad will supplement these totals.

Three AA features are already completed, King Brothers' "Last of the Badmen," Jack Wrather's "Strike It Rich" and Associated British's "My Brother Jonathan," he declared. Others on the AA list are: Roy Del Ruth's "Red Light," King Brothers' "Gun Crazy," Champion-Edward's "Stampede," Lesser-Melford's "When a Man's a Man," two untitled Fields-Thane features to be made in Canada and Paul Short's "Bad Boy," sponsored by Variety Clubs International.

SIMPP to Clark

(Continued from page 1)

full effect of the decision of the Supreme Court by procuring the Government's agreement to a so-called "consent decree."

Lessing suggested that "any softening of the application of the law as laid down by the Supreme Court would result in a continuation of monopolistic practices and prevent restoration of a free and competitive screen." He said that the original consent decree of 1940 had "completely failed."

Paris Opens Here

Henri Bonnet, French Ambassador to the U. S., and Grover Whalen were guest speakers last night at the opening of Pathe Cinema's Paris Theatre here. "Symphonie Pastorale" was given its premiere in conjunction with the opening, which was held as a benefit for five French relief organizations.

Small Business Quiz Set for More Cities

SALT LAKE CITY, Sept. 13.—Testimony on the independent theatre's side of the small business question will be heard before the Congressional Small Business Committee in New Orleans in November, Willis Ballinger, chairman, declared today during hearings here. Hearings in January in Los Angeles, are also planned. Ballinger said important testimony on theatres is yet to come.

In Salt Lake City the hearings Saturday heard from Gene Bowls, representing the Camark, neighborhood theatre, who said his house has not had pictures until after "seven runs," and that his grosses have been cut at least 50 per cent.

Jay Christensen, owner of the Arcade, West Side house, said before circuits acquired neighborhood houses on the East Side he had received a "square break" on pictures, but now circuit-operated neighborhoods get special favors and pictures before the Arcade.

Henry Ungerleider and Ray C. Hendry of Intermountain Theatres, and Giff Davison of RKO also attended the hearing, but did not testify.

In Butte hearings earlier in the week the committee heard Clarence Golder of Great Falls testify that Fox-Intermountain is making it difficult for him to get product. He testified he did not believe producing companies should be allowed to own theatres.

Services Today for Wm. J. Kernan, 72

A Requiem Mass will be sung at Holy Trinity Church at 10 A.M. today for William J. Kernan, 72, assistant treasurer and paymaster of RKO Service Corp., who died here Saturday, at St. Vincent's Hospital. Kernan had been with RKO and its predecessors for over 32 years.

Surviving are the widow, Mrs. Ellen I. Kernan; a son, William E. Kernan, and three brothers, John B., Joseph F., and Edward H. Kernan. Interment will be at Calvary Cemetery, West Roxbury, Mass.

George Goldberg, 55

ALBANY, N. Y., Sept. 13.—Funeral services were held here today for George Goldberg, 55, Warner salesman for more than 20 years. Police found Goldberg's body Saturday morning in Washington Park Lake 26 hours after Mrs. Goldberg reported him missing. The widow said he was ill for the past three months. A member of Variety Club and a veteran of World War I, Goldberg is also survived by a married daughter. F. D. Moore, Warner district manager, came from Boston to attend the funeral.

Morris Harris, 64

HARTFORD, Sept. 13.—Morris Alton Harris, 64, associated in the operation of the State Theatre, Hartford, with his brothers, Ted Martin, and Sam, died at Mt. Sinai Hospital on Friday. Burial was in Hartford Sunday.

Kriendler Memorial

Monument to the memory of Jack Kriendler, co-founder of New York's Twenty-one Club, will be unveiled at Mt. Lebanon Cemetery, Brooklyn, on Sept. 26.

Kalmine to Preside At Warner Meeting

Harry M. Kalmine, president of Warner Theatres, will preside at a zone managers' meeting here today at the company's home office. Those attending will include: Zone managers James Coston, Nat Wolf, I. J. Hoffman, Frank Damis, Charles A. Smakwitz, Ted Schlanger, M. A. Silver, George A. Crouch, and Ben Wallerstein.

Also, film buyers Alex Halperin, Ted Minsky, Bert Jacobs, Max Hoffman, Sam Blasky, Max Friedman, John Turner, Harry Feinstein, L. F. Ribnitzki and Leo Miller, and home office executives M. Alben, C. E. Bond, F. Cahill, H. Copelan, Z. Epstein, N. Felman, H. Goldberg, L. J. Kaufman, H. Maier, F. Marshall, W. S. McDonald, F. Phelps, H. Rodner, H. Rosenquest, D. Triester, R. Weiss and B. Wirth.

Edward Doherty Buys Film Company

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 13.—United International, Inc., 16mm. distribution company, has been purchased by a financial group headed by Edward Doherty of Chicago, who is president of the Apex Railway Supply Co., manufacturer of railway equipment. He will act as chairman of the board of the reorganized film company. The Hollywood office, from which most of the business of the company will be transacted, is under management of H. W. Irwin, new president of United.

Plans of United also call for the production and distribution of features for both 35mm. and 16mm. release.

U-I, SPG Boycott

(Continued from page 1)

affidavit provisions of the Taft-Hartley Law has made it impossible for the companies to negotiate new contracts with them.

Universal, like Warners, which also has refused to deal with SPG, has no contract with SOPEG and hence did not send a refusal communication to that group as did other distribution home offices. Companies forming a "front" against both unions include United Artists, Columbia, Loew's, Paramount, RKO Radio, Republic, 20th Century-Fox. Universal and Warner home office "white collarites" have contracts with IATSE Home Office Local No. H-63, which claims to have won "an overwhelming majority" of UA employees away from SOPEG. A UA shop election has been sought.

SOPEG president Sidney Young and SPG president Jeff Livingston are expected to hold a joint strategy meeting this week.

Resume Stage Shows

SCRANTON, Pa., Sept. 13.—Comerford Theatres' Capitol here and Penn in Wilkes-Barre will resume stage shows for the new season on Thursday, and the Hippodrome at Pottstown and Feeley at Hazleton will resume on Sept. 20.

Al Tamarin's Father

Abraham Tamarin, 74, died Sunday of pulmonary post-operative complications. Services were held at Hudson City Cemetery, Hudson, N. Y. Surviving Tamarin, who retired from business 10 years ago, are his sons, Alfred H. Tamarin, publicity director of United Artists, and Dr. Joseph Tamarin, both of New York.

No extra fare on American's DC-6 Flagships!



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On September 1st, DC-6 and Constellation fares were raised 10 per cent by the transcontinental air lines—with the single exception of American Airlines. On *American*, you can enjoy luxurious DC-6 service at no increase in cost!

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daily at midnight, EDT and arriving in Los Angeles at 8:10 a.m. PDT, will continue to provide transcontinental travelers with the finest in air travel—at the same fare—only \$157.85. "The Mercury" now has eight roomy Skysleeper berths to supplement 36 seat accommodations.

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THE
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IT'S HOTTEST!
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WILL BE
Your GREATEST!**

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Cleveland Plain Dealer
Columbus Dispatch
Dallas News
Dallas Times Herald
Dayton News
Denver Post
Denver Rocky Mt. News
Des Moines Register
Detroit Free Press
Detroit News
Detroit Times
Duluth News Tribune
Erie Dispatch
El Paso Times
Ft. Wayne Journal
Gazette
Ft. Worth Star-Telegram
Fresno Bee
Galveston News
Grand Rapids Herald
Hartford Courant
Houston Chronicle
Houston Post
Jacksonville Times-Union
Indianapolis Star
Kansas City Star
Knoxville Journal
Lincoln Journal-Star
Little Rock Gazette
Long Beach Press
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Los Angeles Times
Louisville Courier-Journal
Macon News Telegraph
Memphis Comm. Appeal
Miami Herald
Milwaukee Sentinel
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Rockford Star
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St. Joseph News Press
St. Louis Globe Democrat
St. Louis Post Dispatch
St. Paul Pioneer Press
Salt Lake City Tribune
San Antonio Express
San Antonio Light
San Diego Union
San Francisco Chronicle
San Francisco Examiner
Savannah News
Scranton Scrantonian
Seattle Post Intelligencer
Seattle Times
Shreveport Times
Sioux City Journal
South Bend Tribune
Spokane Spokesman
Springfield (Mo.)
News Leader
Springfield News Sun
Springfield Republican
Syracuse Herald
American
Syracuse Post Standard
Tacoma News Tribune
Terra Haute Trib-Star
Toledo Times
Topeka Capital
Tulsa World
Washington Post
Washington Star
Washington Times Herald
Wichita Beacon
Wichita Eagle
Wilkes-Barre
Independent
Worcester Telegram
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**This is a partial list of news-
paper comic sections and
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appear between Oct. 10 and
Oct. 31 — heading for**

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Months ago we told you so...that this would be a new
Then we proved it at the N.Y. Paramount's Pre-Release
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DD GROSSES IN 2 YEARS

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DULUTH

NEWARK

PEEKSKILL

WILKES-BARRE

CHATTANOOGA

KNOXVILLE

CHARLOTTE

DOWN EVER!

Ascap Fees

(Continued from page 1)

recently and since Friday's decision all have now ceased making payments.

Kane, an attorney, says he sees little chance of Judge Nordbye's decision being reversed on appeal, pointing out that the jurist is regarded as ultra-conservative.

Berger himself has refused to pay the music tax for his straight film theatres for 1941 but he intimated that Judge Nordbye's decision of last week might establish a precedent for those theatres which have been paying Ascap.

Berger also indicated he would go along with any attempt by the Society to appeal the decision to the Supreme Court.

Denied Damages, Injunction

Schwartz emphasized that Judge Nordbye's 17-page memorandum denied damages to the Ascap plaintiffs against the exhibitor defendants for the latter's refusal to pay and denied plaintiffs an injunction restraining the exhibitors from further use of film music without an Ascap license.

Judge Nordbye held that to grant plaintiffs' petition "would tend to serve the plaintiffs in their plan and scheme with other members of Ascap to extend their copyrights in a monopolistic control beyond their proper scope."

"Ascap has the combined and potential power to deny to any theatre owner the right to carry on his business," Judge Nordbye held, "because, without the right to exhibit films containing Ascap music, no theatre owner would be able to stay in business."

Citing Ascap's practices in dealing with theatres, Judge Nordbye held that the Society could refuse to license or impose an exorbitant fee which "can sound the death knell of every motion picture theatre in America."

Illegal Despite Policing

Granting that Ascap endeavored to police violations of its members' copyrights by its licensing method, Judge Nordbye said: "Notwithstanding these seeming beneficent purposes, plaintiffs and their associates through Ascap have obtained by these methods and practices which they have carried on over the years a monopolistic control over the copyrighted films in which the music is integrated."

The suits were brought here by M. Witmark and Sons, Santley-Joy, Inc., Harms, Inc., and Mills Music, Inc., all of New York, and all Ascap members. They sought to collect the performing fee from Berger and Mrs. Jensen.

"Johnny Belinda"

(Continued from page 1)

she begins to appreciate kindness and warmth when Lew Ayres, newly arrived village doctor, interests himself in her case. From him, Miss Wyman learns to converse with signs and to read lips so that finally she is moved from her own narrow world closer to the normal world of people about her. From her, Ayres finds comfort for earlier failure and disillusion until he falls in love as she eventually does with him.

Stephen McNally, domineering and unscrupulous fisherman, one night rapes the girl who bears his child without divulging the identity of her violator although Ayres begins to suspect. Pride of possession persuades McNally to visit the child, Johnny, when in an unguarded moment he reveals the truth. In a scuffle atop a cliff, McNally kills Bickford, the avenging father.

Suspicious of Ayres, the townsfolk decide to clear their village's name by seeking to place the baby in the hands of McNally and his wife, Jan Sterling. Her maternal instincts aroused, Miss Wyman resists Miss Sterling and thereafter kills McNally while on his way to the baby's room. Meanwhile Ayres, with marriage his intention, regards Johnny as his own son and so describes him to Miss Wyman. Miss Sterling recognizes the letter so declaring as incriminating evidence in the trial that follows. In fact, it is until she breaks down in court and acknowledges that McNally had told her he was the father. This brings about Miss Wyman's acquittal and a final reunion with Ayres.

From an histrionic approach, Miss Wyman, who never utters a word must rely for the projection of her emotions and her understanding almost entirely on mobility of expression, with the sign language of the deaf mute as an assist. With an astonishing minimum of expression, it is to her great credit as an actress that she does outstandingly well. Undoubtedly here is a performance which will figure prominently in the year's contest over Academy Awards.

The surrounding talent is not to be minimized, however. Ayres is excellent as the doctor. McNally makes a thorough-going heavy. Bickford seems to get close to the soil as the father and Miss Moorehead, always competent, again maintains her reputation. Miss Sterling is effective and so, too, are Dan Seymour and the others. Production values are salty and picturesque. An asset of decided value is the musical score prepared by Max Steiner. It establishes and serves to maintain mood, which is its function.

Running time, 102 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, Oct. 23. RED KANN

Para. Staff Luncheon

Henry Ginsberg, Paramount production vice-president, will have luncheon with the entire advertising-publicity departments of the home office at the Astor Hotel tomorrow, at which time he will talk about forthcoming product. Representatives of the publicity department of Paramount International and the Buchanan Advertising Agency also will be present. Paul Raibourn, vice-president of Paramount, will act as host.

N. Y. Ascap Decree

(Continued from page 1)

day, was withheld here yesterday pending an analysis of the ruling. Ascap attorneys said that copies of the decision had not yet reached New York.

Similarly, executives of the Theatre Owners of America, which, following the New York decision advised its members to continue payments to Ascap, said any new stand on the entire music matter must await a study of the Minneapolis opinion.

Robert P. Patterson will join with attorney Louis Frohlich in representing Ascap in Minneapolis. Both are also working on the New York case.

PCCITO Trustees to Discuss Ascap, Video

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 13.—Ascap and television will be among the first subjects discussed by trustees of the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners when their three-day meeting gets under way tomorrow at the Ambassador Hotel. Leroy Johnson, PCCITO's Ascap program chairman, will commend attorney Robert W. Graham for his *amici curiae* briefs filed in the Independent Theatre Owners Association's case against Ascap in New York and in the Minneapolis case decided against Ascap by Federal Judge G. H. Nordbye last week.

New York Grosses

(Continued from page 1)

the first week. "Loves of Carmen," also good, will likely give the State a handsome \$45,000 for a second week.

Business at other situations is for the most part only about fair, with estimated grosses as follows: "That Lady in Ermine," Jon Hall and Frances Langford, among others, on the stage, third week at the Roxy, \$75,000 ("Luck of the Irish" replaces the show tomorrow); "Date with Judy" and a stage show at the Music Hall, sixth and final week, \$120,000; "Larceny," Winter Garden, third week, \$20,000; "Race Street," Mayfair, fourth and final week, \$14,000; "Velvet Touch," Rivoli, third week, \$22,000; "Tap Roots," Criterion, third, \$20,000; "Two Guys from Texas" and a giveaway stage show, Strand, third week, \$30,000; "Larceny," Winter Garden, second week, \$17,000; "Rope," Globe, third week \$30,000; "Babe Ruth Story," Astor, seventh week, \$17,500; "Ruthless," Gotham, second week, \$12,500. New films to open this week include "Good Sam," Thursday at the Music Hall, and "Rachel and the Stranger," Saturday at the Mayfair.

20th Availability

(Continued from page 1)

to offer such a policy to exhibitors," he added. "Completed pictures and those already in preparation enable us to offer exhibitors definite future releases, giving them the opportunity to make their plans for future bookings," declared Smith.

Smith added that under this policy exhibitors would be able to schedule their attendance at a film's showing and at the same time confirm pencilled-in bookings.

To Furnish Promotion Material

"We offer," he said, "not only the product, but we are prepared to provide the necessary advertising-publicity material and information with each picture sufficiently in advance to provide every exhibitor with the fullest opportunity to accurately plan presentation of our films."

"Director of advertising and publicity Charles Schlaifer and his home office staff, and the staff of Harry Brand, studio director of publicity, already have completed publicity, ad sales material, trailers and other accessories for the next five months and are preparing other campaigns far in advance. Our branch offices have been acquainted with the date of availability of this material and have been advised of the first date on which bookings could be accepted for each release."

Stresses Boon to Exhibitors

Smith pointed out that 20th Century-Fox has been mindful that the exhibitor's opportunities for advance planning and preparation have not been simple in the past. Now, he said, through the coordinated and cooperative effort of the company's studio and home office the exhibitor will have the maximum possibilities not only for advance information on productions but also on sales policies and availability.

Stating that early in November he will announce definite dates for the availability to key city first-run accounts on pictures for the first five months of 1949, Smith said the schedule will stipulate arrival date of first print as well as the availability of advertising accessories.

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64. NO. 53

NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1948

TEN CENTS

'IA' Pension Plans Readied For Industry

Locals Move Toward Bid For Management Talks

Governing bodies of IATSE locals in various sections of the country, representing thousands of industry workers, have started to formulate plans for negotiating locally with film companies, laboratories, theatres, etc., for the adoption of jointly-operated union-management pension plans. Hundreds of thousands of dollars in financing may be involved ultimately.

Local planning, stemming from the decision of the delegates at last month's biennial IATSE convention in Cleveland, is subject to the approval of individual local memberships. Whether the joint pension plan principle will be advocated eventually by all 940 "IA" locals in the U. S. and Canada, representing a total of some 60,000 industry workers, cannot be foreseen at this time. However, the possibility remains.

The "IA" general executive board, headed by international president

(Continued on page 4)

'Joan of Arc' to Open on Nov. 11

"Joan of Arc," starring Ingrid Bergman, made by Sierra Pictures and released by RKO Radio, will have its world premiere at the new Victoria Theatre, New York, on Armistice Day, Nov. 11.

This Victor Fleming production, in Technicolor, based on Maxwell Anderson's stage play, "Joan of Lorraine," has been heralded as the most costly in recent history of motion

(Continued on page 8)

Enterprise Calls Production Halt

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 14.—Enterprise, which recently allowed its option on Harry Sherman's studio to lapse, suspended production last night pending the outcome of continuing conferences with Sherman.

If not renewed, the lease on the studio has eight months to run. Side-tracked by the production suspension are Sherman's "Tennessee's Partner,"

(Continued on page 4)

Report Ascap Orders Its Field Branches to Drop Collections

American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers has instructed all of its branch offices throughout the country to discontinue efforts to collect music reproducing license fees from theatres, it was widely reported here yesterday although efforts to reach Ascap officials for confirmation were unsuccessful.

Theatre collections had come to a virtual standstill in consequence of the New York and Minneapolis Federal Court decisions against Ascap and presumably the Society is content to let matters take their course until the current litigation is finally adjudicated. That could mean another two years, depending on appeals.

Drive for Skouras' Central Agency to Buy Film Music Rights Under Study

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 14.—Spyros P. Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox, is celebrating his 35th year in show business and the company's sales force is dedicating a special



Spyros P. Skouras

concentrated sales campaign in his honor, general sales manager Andy W. Smith, Jr., announced here today. Starting Sept. 26 and ending Dec. 25, the 13-week period will be known as "The Spyros P. Skouras 35th Anniversary Celebration," Smith revealed at the opening session of the company's national sales conference.

Objectives of the anniversary celebration will include achieving the greatest "pencil-in" result in company

(Continued on page 8)

Realart's 1st. Nat'l Meeting Sept. 20-23 Approve 20th-Roxy Video Experiments

Budd Rogers, distribution vice-president of Realart Pictures, will preside at the company's first national convention to be held here Sept. 20-23 at the Warwick Hotel. The meeting will be attended by franchise holders and salesmen from all parts of the country.

During its first year, the company placed in release through franchise holders more than 40 reissue features and eight reissue Westerns, and 35 features, 24 Westerns and four serials, all reissues, through other channels.

Among those who will attend the convention are: Paul Broder, Jack Broder, Irving Kipnis, Norman Eisenstein, Joseph Harris, Bill Schulman,

(Continued on page 8)

E. C. Mills, former general manager of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, has been asked to appraise the music performing rights situation in the light of recent Federal Court decisions and to report on new licensing procedures, including a proposal for establishing a central buying agency for motion picture producers.

Producers will be unable to clear world rights to the music in their films through individual copyright owners if the legal decisions force Ascap out of the theatre licensing field, it was pointed out. In most instances, American copyright owners assign rights to other music publishers for individual countries throughout the world and, without a central clearance agency, producers and distributors would encounter great difficulty in locating and negotiating with such individual holders of rights outside the United States.

While the court decisions will not

(Continued on page 8)

Settlement of Para. Case 'Impossible'

US, Companies Said Far Apart on Decree Terms

Agreement on a consent decree in the industry anti-trust suit is impossible at this time because of the widely divergent views of the Government and theatre-owning defendants, it was disclosed here yesterday by a participant in the top-executive, private, industry conferences on the matter.

He said that the defendants cannot agree to the theatre-divestiture requirements on which the Department of Justice would condition a decree and expressed the belief that major defendants would do better by relying upon the final adjudication of the case in the courts.

Robert Wright, Government prosecutor in the case, following the U. S. Supreme Court's opinion, said he intended to press for complete divorce-ment.

Attorney General Tom Clark last week expressed willingness to talk

(Continued on page 4)

3% State Tax Urged At Ohio ITO Meet

COLUMBUS, Sept. 14.—Return to the uniform state three per cent admissions tax was urged today at the first session of the two-day convention of the Independent Theatre Owners of Ohio at the Deshler-Wallick Hotel here. Although no formal action was taken, sentiment of exhibitors present seemed to favor the change.

The some 250 delegates present also heard a prediction by Abram F. Myers, Allied States general counsel,

(Continued on page 10)

Distributors Answer Gov't. Queries Today

The five theatre-owning defendants in the industry anti-trust case will submit the balance of their answers to Department of Justice interrogatories to the New York Federal Court today, the deadline for filing. The companies will list theatre partnership arrangements, stock ownerships, voting shares and related information.

Coming Events

Sept. 16-18—International Variety Clubs' mid-year convention, Statler Hotel, Washington.

Sept. 24-25—Theatre Owners of America convention, Drake Hotel, Chicago.

Sept. 26-27—MPTO of St. Louis, annual convention, Jefferson Hotel, St. Louis.

Sept. 28-30—Theatre Equipment and Supply Manufacturers Association national trade show and convention, Jefferson Hotel, St. Louis.

Sept. 28-29—Kansas-Missouri Theatre Association annual convention, Kansas City.

Oct. 14-15—Independent Theatre Owners of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan annual convention, Schroeder Hotel, Milwaukee.

Oct. 25-29—Society of Motion Picture Engineers semi-annual convention, Statler Hotel, Washington.

Oct. 27-28—Kentucky Association of Theatre Owners convention at the Seelbach Hotel, Louisville, Ky.

Nov. 1-2—Allied Theatre Owners of Texas annual convention, Dallas, Tex.

Would Raise \$17,000 To Fight Censorship

Tentative title of "National Council for Freedom of Expression" was adopted by an anti-censorship group at a meeting here yesterday. A tentative budget of \$17,000 was also announced. Elmer Rice, chairman of the meeting, pointed out that the wave of censorship in the film industry, as well as in the press and on the radio "is getting worse all the time." He called for the unified opposition of all "interested in freedom."

The meeting for the most part was concerned with whether the unit should indulge in legislative activity, and whether its organization should be on an individual or a group basis.

Kurtz Quits Rialto To Join M. Heiman

William Kurtz has resigned as treasurer of the Rialto Theatre, Broadway first-run, to join United Booking Office, headed by Marcus Heiman. Kurtz said yesterday that he will supervise operation of the National Theatre, Washington, as well as book product for it, maintaining headquarters in the Sardi Building, New York. Kurtz had been associated for many years with Arthur Mayer when the latter operated the Rialto.

Sioux City, Ia., to Review Pictures

SIoux CITY, Ia., Sept. 14.—Following recent banning of three books by the city's chief of police, Mayor Dan J. Conley has named a committee of nine men and nine women to review motion pictures or publications against which complaints are entered.

Personal Mention

GRADWELL SEARS, United Artists president, is expected back in New York tomorrow from the Coast.

FRED QUIMBY, M-G-M short subjects production head, and Mrs. QUIMBY will leave Hollywood Oct. 1 for New York, stopping off at London, Ont., en route.

JOHN MURPHY, who is in charge of Loew's out-of-town theatre operations, accompanied by HARRY MOSKOWITZ, chief engineer, has returned to New York from Boston.

JACK NEEDHAM, retired 20th Century-Fox salesman in Columbus, has been named chairman of that city's drive to aid the Will Rogers Memorial Hospital.

WALTER YANCKE, city manager of Dent Theatres at Lincoln, Neb., has been discharged from the hospital following a polio attack and is recuperating at his home.

F. J. A. MCCARTHY, Universal-International Southern and Canadian sales manager, will leave New York today for Buffalo and Toronto.

B. G. KRANZE, Film Classics distribution vice-president, left here yesterday by plane for San Francisco and Los Angeles.

JOSEPH MARKS, Selznick Releasing Organization's Canadian division sales manager, is en route to New York from Toronto.

W. W. SPENCER, M-G-M studio executive, and his wife are scheduled to leave the Coast on Friday for a visit to New York.

L. B. FUQUA, head of Kentucky Theatre Enterprises, Eddyville, Ky., and Mrs. FUQUA recently became parents of a daughter, MARTHA LOIS.

LARRY WEINGARTEN, M-G-M studio executive, and his wife will leave Hollywood Sept. 30 for New York.

PAULA GOULD, Capitol Theatre publicist here, is on vacation.

JOE FAITH, Connecticut exhibitor, has recovered from a long illness.

Production in Slight Gain; 27 in Work

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 14.—The production index stood at 27, gaining one from last week's tally. Work started on five new films; four were completed.

Shooting started on "Blondie's Big Deal" and "Jungle Jim's Adventure," Columbia; "Daughter of Ramona" (Martin Mooney), Film Classics; "Jiggs and Maggie in Court," Monogram; "Thunder in the Pines" (Lip-pert), Screen Guild.

Shooting finished on "Joe Palooka in the Big Fight," Monogram; "Streets of Laredo," Paramount; "Daughter of the Jungle," Republic; "Follow Me Quietly," RKO Radio.

ARTHUR ABELES, JR., Warner managing director in England, is en route to New York from London on the SS *Nieu Amsterdam* for a six-week visit.

DEON DETITTA, chief projectionist at the 20th Century-Fox home office, is observing his 36th wedding anniversary today and his 32nd with the company.

GEORGE E. LANDERS, Hartford division manager of E. M. Loew's Theatres, and his son, RICHARD, have returned to that city from a vacation on the Coast and in Canada.

S. J. BROWN, Sr., former owner-manager of the Star Theatre in West Point, Ky., has almost completely recovered from a major operation.

DOMINICK TURTURRO, owner of the Elm Theatre in Millbury, Mass., and Mrs. TURTURRO have become parents of a daughter.

AL ZIMBALIST, Film Classics advertising-publicity chief, accompanied by MISCHA AUER, will fly to Chicago today from New York.

BEN KALMENSEN, Warner distribution vice-president, was in Boston yesterday from New York.

JACK WALDSTEIN of the M-G-M office in Boston is vacationing in Hollywood.

JOHN JENKINS, Astor Pictures of Dallas president, is in town for talks with R. M. SAVINI, Astor president.

HERMAN RIPPES, M-G-M assistant Eastern division sales manager, is in Boston from Albany, N. Y.

JIMMY NASH, assistant manager of the Capitol Theatre here, was married last Sunday to LENORE GRAMMAN.

SALVATORE POPOLIZIO, 20th Century-Fox booker in New Haven, is recuperating from an operation.

BING CROSBY has been elected to the board of directors of Vacuum Foods Corp.

DICK POWELL left New York yesterday by plane for Hollywood.

To Halt Stage Shows

CHICAGO, Sept. 14.—Discontinuance of stage shows by the Balaban and Katz Regal Theatre, Negro house, after the current Louis Jordan show, has been announced by the management after a demand by the American Federation of Musicians Local for installation of a permanent pit band of eight men. B. and K. claims the demand is unfair.

Stack on WB Board

LONDON, Sept. 14.—Charles Stack, who recently was appointed Warner general sales manager in Britain, has been elected to the UK company's board of directors.

Newsreel Parade

THE Berlin Crisis and the Pope blessing some 250,000 girls are among the current newsreel highlights. Other items include a rodeo, beauty contest and sports. Complete contents follow:

MOVIE-TONE NEWS, No. 74—Huge Berlin rally against the Russians. Canadian oil well burns. Governor Dewey receives. Rome: 250,000 girls hail Pope. U.S. in Forces marks first anniversary. "Pennsylvania Week" proclaimed by Governor Duff. Circus performance for hospital benefit. Miss America. Sports: Mountain climbing, auto dare-devil drivers.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 204—Berlin crisis. Film stars join circus for charity. Pope blesses multitude. First pension check. Drama in the zoo. Beauty on parade. Governor Dewey aids "Youth Month." "Pro" football thriller.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 7—Boston baseball fever. Berlin crisis. UN on foreign policy. Pope spurs anti-Red campaign. Stars aid charity.

UNIVERSAL NEWS, No. 178—Berlin crisis. News in brief: Girls hail Pope, jalopies, Miss America, rodeo. Aviation: B-50's.

WARNER PATHE NEWS, No. 9—New crisis in Berlin. People in the news: Gen. Mark Clark, John L. Lewis, President Truman, Secretary Marshall, Governor Dewey, air-force chiefs. Veteran registers for draft on a flag pole. Miss America. Canadian oil fire. Bike races. Girls visit Pope. Elephant a-la-moat.

Stars To Join in WMGM Dedication

On the occasion of setting new call letters, formerly WHN, and now WMGM, and the opening of new studios, the M-G-M-owned station in New York will offer a three-hour program beginning at eight P. M. tonight, featuring an hour-long pick-up from the film company studios with an assortment of M-G-M stars scheduled to be heard. Mayor O'Dwyer, other officials and numerous figures of the entertainment world will participate in the portions of the show originating at the new studios.

Wrather and Wayne Form Epic Pictures

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 14.—Producer Jack Wrather, actor John Wayne, and writer James Edward Grant, will file incorporation papers next week for Epic Pictures, Inc., to produce three Technicolor pictures in the next three years. Wrather will produce, Wayne will star in, and Grant will write all three. Wrather stated that the company already is 100 per cent financed. No release channel has been set.

Mesibov to CCNY Staff

Sid Mesibov, exploitation manager for Paramount here, has joined the faculty of the College of the City of New York, Institute of Film Techniques, as part-time instructor in the principles of motion picture advertising, publicity, exploitation and distribution. The course is given as part of the College's evening sessions.

Ferretti on His Own

James J. Ferretti, Eastern division manager of U. S. Air Conditioning Corp. for many years, has resigned to develop a new air conditioning system for small theatres.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone Circle 7-3100. Cable address: "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo J. Sullivan, Vice-President and Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; Gus H. Fausel, Production Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 120 South La Salle Street, Editorial and Advertising. Urben Farley, Advertising Representative; Jimmy Ascher, Editorial Representative. Washington, J. A. Otten, National Press Club, Washington, D. C. London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1. Hope Burnup, Manager, Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; Theatre Sales; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, \$6 in the Americas and \$12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

EVERY DAY IT'S TRUER AND TRUER:

M·G·M TOPS THEM ALL!

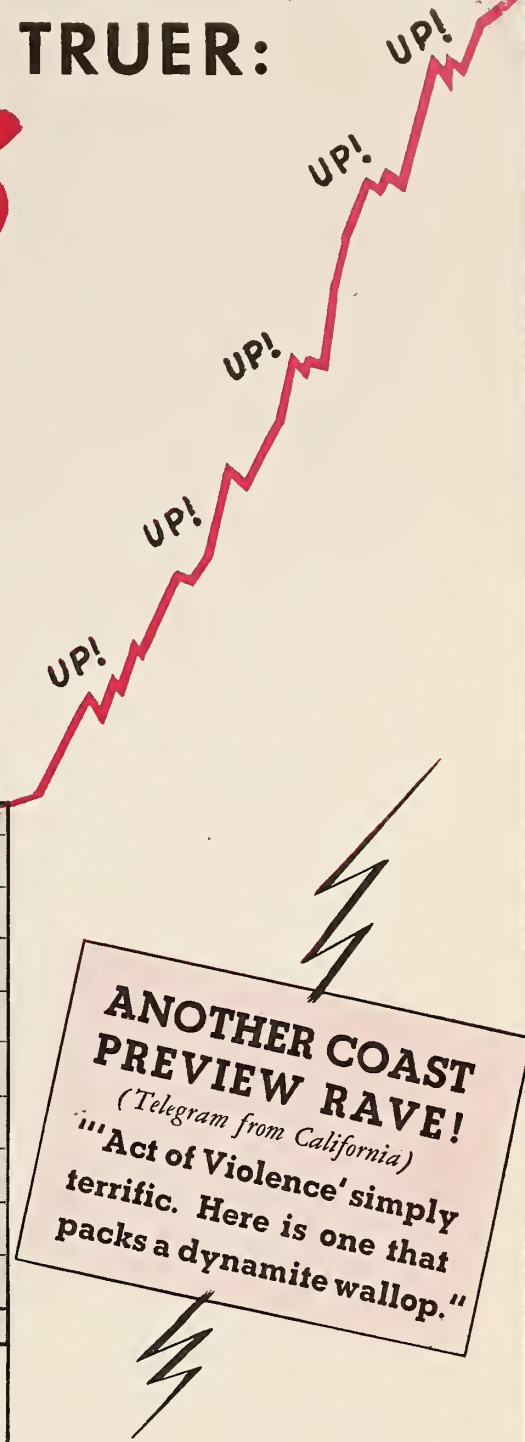
What a Summer! "Homecoming," Irving Berlin's "Easter Parade" (Technicolor), Frank Capra's "State of the Union," "A Date With Judy" (Technicolor), "On An Island With You" (Technicolor), "Luxury Liner" (Technicolor), "A Southern Yankee"! And more! Who else but M-G-M has such a record! And who else but M-G-M has such a line-up of Fall and Winter Big Ones!



**BEFORE
VITAMIN M-G-M!**



**AFTER
VITAMIN M-G-M!**



**ANOTHER COAST
PREVIEW RAVE!**
(Telegram from California)
"Act of Violence' simply
terrific. Here is one that
packs a dynamite wallop."

UP! AND COMING!

GREER GARSON
WALTER PIDGEON in
"JULIA MISBEHAVES"
PETER LAWFORD, ELIZABETH TAYLOR
CESAR ROMERO, Lucile Watson, Nigel
Bruce, Mary Boland, Reginald Owen

The Enterprise Studios present
DANA ANDREWS, LILLI PALMER
and LOUIS JOURDAN in
"NO MINOR VICES"
with Jane Wyatt

"THE SECRET LAND" (Technicolor)
Starring
MEN AND SHIPS
Of The U. S. NAVY
Narration By
Comdr. ROBERT MONTGOMERY, U.S.N.R.
Lt. ROBERT TAYLOR, U.S.N.R.
Lt. VAN HEFLIN, A.A.F. (Ret.)

"HILLS OF HOME" (Technicolor)
Starring
EDMUND GWENN
DONALD CRISP, TOM DRAKE
JANET LEIGH and LASSIE

Alexandre Dumas'
"THE THREE MUSKETEERS" (Technicolor)
Starring
LANA TURNER, GENE KELLY
JUNE ALLYSON, VAN HEFLIN
ANGELA LANSBURY
Frank Morgan, Vincent Price, Keenan
Wynn, John Sutton, Gig Young

"ACT OF VIOLENCE"
Starring
VAN HEFLIN, ROBERT RYAN
with Janet Leigh, Mary Astor
Phyllis Thaxter

FRANK SINATRA, KATHRYN GRAYSON
in "THE KISSING BANDIT" (Technicolor)
J. Carrol Naish, Mildred Natwick
Mikhail Rasumny, Billy Gilbert
Sono Osato with Dance Specialties By
Ricardo Montalban, Ann Miller, Cyd Charisse

John Ford's
"3 GODFATHERS" (Technicolor)
Presented by John Ford & Merian C. Cooper
Starring
JOHN WAYNE, PEDRO ARMENDARIZ
And Introducing HARRY CAREY, Jr.
with Ward Bond, Mae Marsh
Jane Darwell, Ben Johnson

CLARK GABLE, WALTER PIDGEON
VAN JOHNSON, BRIAN DONLEVY
Charles Bickford, John Hodiak
Edward Arnold in
"COMMAND DECISION"

"LITTLE WOMEN" (Technicolor)
Starring
JUNE ALLYSON, PETER LAWFORD
MARGARET O'BRIEN, ELIZABETH TAYLOR
JANET LEIGH, ROSSANO BRAZZI
MARY ASTOR
with Lucile Watson, C. Aubrey Smith

ROBERT TAYLOR
AVA GARDNER
CHARLES LAUGHTON
VINCENT PRICE
JOHN HODIAK in
"THE BRIBE"

"SUN IN THE MORNING"
(Technicolor) Starring
JEANETTE MACDONALD
LLOYD NOLAN, CLAUDE JARMAN, Jr.
and LASSIE
with Lewis Stone, Percy Kilbride

"WORDS AND MUSIC" (Technicolor)
Starring
MICKEY ROONEY, JUDY GARLAND
GENE KELLY, JUNE ALLYSON
PERRY COMO, ANN SOTHERN
with Tom Drake, Cyd Charisse, Betty
Garrett, Lena Horne, Janet Leigh, Marshall
Thompson, Mel Tormé, Vera-Ellen

SPENCER TRACY, DEBORAH KERR
in "EDWARD, MY SON" with Ian Hunter

JOHN GARFIELD in
The Roberts Production
"FORCE OF EVIL"
An Enterprise Picture
with Thomas Gomez and Marie Windsor
And Introducing BEATRICE PEARSON

FRED ASTAIRE, GINGER ROGERS in
"THE BARKLEYS OF BROADWAY"
(Technicolor)
with Oscar Levant, Billie Burke
Gail Robbins, Jacques Francois

FRANK SINATRA
ESTHER WILLIAMS, GENE KELLY in
"TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALL GAME"
(Technicolor)
with Betty Garrett
Jules Munshin, Edward Arnold

(Help Promote YOUTH MONTH—Solving Young America!)

Break Deadlock in WB Wage Bid Here

A deadlock was "partially broken" yesterday in the new contract negotiations being conducted here between Warner and IATSE Motion Picture Home Office Employees Local No. H-63, it was indicated by a spokesman for the union. The break came, it was said, when the company made a wage offer which H-63 representatives considered worth taking under advisement. The spokesman declined to state the amount of the offer.

This development in the Warner "white collarite" negotiations lent a fresh note of optimism to H-63's current campaign for wage increases at not only Warners, but also at Universal, Pathe Laboratories, United World Films, Universal Newsreel, Castle Films, Ace Laboratories, and M-G-M and Warner music houses.

'IA' Pension Plans

(Continued from page 1)

Richard F. Walsh, has gone on record as being opposed to pension plans which are exclusively company-controlled. One point of opposition the board has expressed thusly: "Since discharge eliminates an employee from coverage, there is a temptation present to eliminate an employee about to go upon retirement."

The "IA" convention's decision to allow joint pension plan negotiations to be conducted on the basis of local autonomy, and to prohibit their handling by the international office here, is embodied in the "IA's" dedication to the "home rule" principle. However, for the sake of convenience in negotiating, "IA" has adopted the following stipulation: "When sufficient pension plans have been locally negotiated, and if consummated with the assistance of the general office, they may be sufficiently flexible to fit into a national plan, should a subsequent convention desire to authorize the general office to negotiate pensions upon a national basis."

Many industry companies, including Loew's, RKO Radio, Altec, and some independent theatre circuits, have been operating pension plans for employees.

Brewer Calls NLRB Decision 'Confusing'

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 14.—IATSE international representative Roy M. Brewer has issued a statement calling last Friday's NLRB ruling on discharged machinists "confusing," asserting they had been reinstated two weeks after their dismissal and have been employed steadily since.

IATSE has been pressing for an NLRB decision, Brewer said, and welcomes it as clearing the way for an election to determine the proper bargaining agency for machinists employed in studios, which he says are "virtually 100 per cent IATSE."

NY Studio Mechanics Elect Muller, Gerrity

Edward Muller has been elected business agent of IATSE Studio Mechanics Local No. 52 here, succeeding Sal J. Scoppa who lost out by only nine votes. Local president William J. Gerrity and all other officers were reelected, including Charles Schlosser, vice-president, and James A. Delaney, financial secretary-treasurer.

Screen Writers Guild To Join MPIC Work

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 14.—Reversing its previous stand-off policy, the Screen Writers Guild membership voted at its regular meeting last night to participate in the Motion Picture Industry Council.

The membership voted for a rule to restrict SWG members from dealing with talent agents who have not been licensed by the Guild under regulations yet to be worked out by the executive committee. This action came as a sequel to Artist Managers Guild's rejection of the SWG licensing proposal offered some time ago. The SWG license terms, as projected, would bind agents to protect writers against certain standing practices and represent them in arbitration proceedings.

The SWG members also approved a report by Ernest Pascal on progress in the preparation of contract demands to be made when the current pact expires next May.

Decision Reserved in MPAA vs. SWG Suit

Federal Judge Samuel H. Kaufman yesterday reserved decision in U. S. District Court here on Motion Picture Association of America's defense motion for dismissal of the injunction suit instituted by the Screen Writers Guild. SWG, together with some 30 authors and playwrights, filed its suit early in June, protesting the industry's policy of not hiring known Communists.

The industry policy was formulated after the 10 "unfriendly" Hollywood directors, writers and producers were cited for contempt of Congress following last year's Congressional investigation of alleged subversive activities in the film colony.

Trial of Cole Suit Delayed to Dec. 1

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 14.—Federal Judge Leon Yankwich today denied a motion by M-G-M attorneys for 60-day continuance of Lester Cole's suit for declaratory relief, scheduled for Nov. 16, but did grant a two-week delay, setting Dec. 1 as the trial date.

Cole seeks definition of his rights and a ruling whether the studio was within its rights in suspending him following his refusal to testify before the Thomas committee.

SWG Reports Drop In Jobs at Studios

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 14.—Reporting a decline in its membership to 1,270 from 1,454 during the past year, the Screen Writers Guild maintains that the number of writers under contract to major studios has dropped 53 per cent during the past three years. Writers in the lowest and middle salary brackets have been hardest hit, the SWG says.

Delay Colosseum Talks; Resume Soon

Contract negotiations between distributors and the Colosseum of Motion Picture Salesmen, discontinued temporarily at the weekend, will resume here late this week, a spokesman for the distributors' negotiating committee indicated yesterday. An agreement was expected before the end of last week, but failed to materialize.

Twin Cities Owners Ask Clearance Cuts

Minneapolis, Sept. 14.—First definite overall break in clearance change demands among Twin Cities independent exhibitors occurred immediately when Minneapolis branch managers received requests from Tom Burke of Theatre Associates, buying combine, for a change in availability for a number of houses.

Asking clearance changes from 56 to 42 days for the Edina, Nile and Boulevard, Minneapolis, and the Randolph, St. Paul, and from 56 to 49 days at the Avalon, Minneapolis, and 56 to 35 days for the West Twins, St. Paul, all effective Sept. 29, Burke said he was prepared "to negotiate on that availability."

Move to Halt 16mm. Film Price-cutting

As the first move in an all-out campaign to halt the cutting of prices of established 16mm. rental schedules, representatives of five 16mm. distributing companies met at a luncheon meeting at the Hotel Astor here yesterday to discuss plans to combat the "growing menace of price cutting which is strangling the 16mm. industry" through the unfair pricing and exhibition practices of some 16mm. libraries and operators of road-shows, particularly in the south.

The meeting was called by Jacques Kopfstein, executive vice-president of Astor Pictures, who met with representatives of Commonwealth, Film Highlights, Post and Pictorial. Discussions centered around determining the validity of minimum price rentals now part of the standard lease agreement between distributors and film libraries and the question of their legal enforcement.

Of paramount importance, it was said, is the question of the rigid enforcement by the libraries of rentals in situations which might cause resentment from local 35mm. theatre operators. Maintenance of minimum price rentals between libraries and 16mm. exhibitors, and the best method of operation for the mutual benefit of the 16mm. industry were also discussed.

Additional meetings are scheduled for the second Tuesday of every month. Other 16mm. film distributors will be invited to participate.

Enterprise

(Continued from page 1)

which was to complete Enterprise's seven-picture commitment to United Artists, and one untitled picture to complete its four-picture commitment to M-G-M. Neither had started shooting.

Also entering into the decision to suspend production, according to one Enterprise executive, is the fact that the company has in excess of \$5,000,000 tied up in three unreleased pictures delivered to M-G-M. It is believed that a resumption of production will await returns from these pictures unless Enterprise and Sherman work out a mutually satisfactory deal on a new studio lease.

Answer SIMPP in Detroit in 2 Weeks

DETROIT, Sept. 14.—An answer to the anti-trust suit brought by the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers in Federal Court here against United Detroit Theatres and Cooperative Theatres of Michigan will be filed in about two weeks.

David Newman, legal and public relations counsellor for Cooperative, said, "Cooperative in all its dealings with the plaintiffs, always conducted itself in a legal manner." He expressed confidence in a complete vindication in court of the charges made.

Newman directly stated that the SIMPP makes "some false charges with relation to Cooperative" and cited two examples, indicating at the same time, the line of reasoning which the answer will probably take:

1—"It is false that Cooperative has an option to purchase back the theatre of any member who withdraws." Existence of such a provision was denied by Newman who further stated, "Cooperative does not own any theatres and has never owned any."

2—"They (SIMPP) claim that no exhibitor can come into Cooperative if any one member objects. Lots of new members get in over the opposition of other members. In the case of the admission of new members a majority of the board of directors governs."

Trial of Dipson Trust Suit Opens in Buffalo

BUFFALO, Sept. 14.—Trial of the \$5,125,472 treble damage anti-trust suit filed here several months ago by Dipson Theatre Co. of Buffalo opened today in Federal Court before Judge John Knight with Mikitas D. Dipson as chief witness. Defendants in the suit are Buffalo Theatres, Inc., operators of the Shea circuit; Loew's, Paramount, Universal, Warner Brothers, RKO Radio, 20th Century-Fox, United Artists and Columbia, and Vincent R. McFaul, president of Buffalo Theatres.

Louis Borins, plaintiff's attorney, charged that Dipson's 20th Century Theatre, first-run downtown theatre, suffered "terrific monetary losses" as a result of what he described as "one of the unholy conspiracies heard of."

Paramount Case

(Continued from page 1)

about a decree with the film companies but predicted that the companies would not submit any settlement proposals.

While the same opinion is held by some top-level industry executives, the flat statement that a decree could not be agreed upon was the first to be made by one of the relatively few men who have participated in the private discussions on the subject.

In Washington yesterday, Wright said that nothing has happened concerning the decree since the first approach to Attorney General Clark. It was at that time that Clark told a distributor group that he would be available to discuss the matter.

Concerning the forthcoming trial, Wright said that if the Oct. 13 date for reopening the case in New York interferes with plans of any defense attorneys to observe the Jewish holiday the same day, he would agree to "an adjustment." "I'm not so sure about a long postponement," he added.

Buy European Right To Zale Fight Films

European rights to Ringside Picture's films of the forthcoming Tony Zale-Marcel Cerdan World's Middle-weight Boxing Championship and the Gus Lesnevich-Jersey Joe Walcott heavy-weight elimination bout have been sold to French boxing promoter Logman, it was reported here yesterday by Mannie Baum, Ringside's general manager.

Ten cameramen will record the fights, which will be held at Roosevelt Stadium, Jersey City, on Sept. 21, according to Baum. He added that prints will leave New York at about eight o'clock the following morning by planes for points West, with screenings expected to be held in Chicago theatres less than 24 hours after the fights are finished.

Ringside will handle its own distribution in New York, Baum said. Illinois distribution has been contracted for by Henri Elman of Chicago, and Pacific Coast distribution will be handled by Herbert Rosener of San Francisco, according to Baum.

Children's Library Starts in Canada

The Children's Film Library will be inaugurated in Canada next week. Mrs. Marjorie Dawson, chairman of the Children's Film Library Committee of the Motion Picture Association of America will leave for Toronto next Monday to attend a meeting on Sept. 21 at which she will demonstrate the procedures established by the committee in the United States to distributors of Canada and to representatives of Canadian women's organizations.

Toronto Odeon Scale Highest in Canada

TORONTO, Sept. 14.—Regular policy of the Odeon-Toronto has been established with prices scaling up to \$1.20, the highest for any house in Canada. General admission at other first-run houses here is 66 cents top.

'Olympics' to Gotham

J. Arthur Rank's "The Olympic Games of 1948," in Technicolor, being released here by Eagle-Lion, will open in New York on Sept. 24 at the Gotham Theatre, E-L announced yesterday.

Vog Film Premiere

American premiere of the new French film, "Loves of Casanova," released in the U. S. by Vog Film Co., will be held at Siritzky Ambassador Theatre here Friday.

Canada's Attendance Is Leveling Off

Toronto, Sept. 14.—Canadian government report shows a decline in theatre attendance of 7,000,000 patrons in 1947, confirming the recent observation of president J. J. Fitzgibbons of Famous Players-Canadian that patronage is levelling off in the Dominion.

Review

"The Olympic Games of 1948"

(J. Arthur Rank—Eagle-Lion)

EIGHTEEN Technicolor camera units, manned by 75 J. Arthur Rank organization cameramen, recorded for the screen the brilliant, colorful feats of physical strength and endurance which marked the recent London Olympic Games and the prior winter Olympic Games held at St. Moritz, Switzerland. This is indeed a vivid film record of the 14th Olympiad, the ubiquitous cameraman capturing all of the breathtaking beauty of the Swiss Alpine area where daring skiers, superb ice skaters and expert tobogganists competed for top honors in the field of winter sports. Likewise, those cameramen followed with amazing flexibility the suspenseful athletic events at London's huge Wembley Stadium, Empire Pool, and other sites where supplemental sport contests were held. For American audiences there are many genuinely thrilling moments here, since U. S. athletic stars acquitted themselves splendidly at the Olympics and brought home with them a goodly number of laurels.

But for all of the majestic beauty of snowy Alps, the thrills of stadium and aquatic events—including swimming, foot racing, marathons, jumping, discus throwing, horsemanship, etc.—the film is entirely too long for general theatre audiences. Sports enthusiasts, on the other hand, might complain that this is not a complete film record of the Olympics. True, it is an incomplete record, but there is no lack of excitement in the events presented. Of course, the first consideration should be general theatre patronage in serving fare such as this; hence, unsparing though judicious cutting would seem to be in order.

One thing is practically certain, however. J. Arthur Rank (and Eagle-Lion, too, of course) has a film which qualifies for Academy Award honors in the documentary field. Producer director Castleton Knight can take credit for a masterful job in a production which was superbly handled in all individual departments. U. S. sports announcers Bill Stern and Ted Husing take care of the narration and commentary in their usual A-1 fashion. An impressive music score, recorded by Sir Thomas Beecham's Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, under the direction of Muir Mathieson, was specially written by Guy Warrack.

Running time, 136 minutes. General audience classification. For September release.

CHARLES L. FRANKE

Commonwealth Meets

PRESIDENT, Kan., Sept. 14.—Annual convention of Commonwealth Theatres started here today with the announcement that Robert Simmons of the Plaza Theatre in Lamar, Mo., had won the "King of the Sun" contest. He will be inaugurated at the outing tomorrow afternoon at Star Lane Farm. C. A. Schultz, president, and Robert Shelton, vice-president and general manager, are in charge of the meeting.

Youth Month Scholarship

A four-year scholarship to Denver University will be the grand prize in a nationwide essay contest conducted among the Youth of America over National Broadcasting, it has been announced here by the Theatre Owners of America. The scholarship was arranged by Robert W. Selig, Colorado exhibitor and state chairman of the national Youth Month Committee.

Education Film Unit To End on Sept. 25

Final meeting of the Commission on Motion Pictures of the American Council on Education, established in 1944 under a Motion Picture Association of America grant, will be held here on Sept. 25, according to Dr. Mark A. May, chairman of the Commission. Research material and educational specifications to be used in developing films in the fields of democracy, music, art and high school mathematics are expected to be released at the meeting.

Youths to 'Salute Youth'

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 14.—Children will be admitted free to "Salute to Youth" morning programs at 17 Fox West Coast first run theatres in the Los Angeles area on Sept. 18. Shows will be sponsored by Arden Farms Milk Co., which will supply the tickets.

1,693 Canadian Houses Earned \$62,278,573

OTTAWA, Sept. 14.—In an advance preliminary report, the Canadian government reveals that the 1,693 motion picture theatres in Canada earned \$62,278,573 last year, excluding amusement taxes which amounted to \$16,375,226, paid admissions totaled \$220,714,785.

The 472 theatres in Ontario led all others in receipts, earning \$26,483,044, with amusement taxes there totaling \$5,977,181 and paid admissions \$93,137,140.

Earnings, not including taxes, elsewhere in Canada were as follows: (Number of theatres are in brackets): Quebec, \$13,919,917 (319); British Northwest territories, \$7,055,066 (172); Alberta, \$3,707,668 (178);

Manitoba, \$3,526,223 (146); Saskatchewan, \$2,890,727 (254); Nova Scotia, \$2,666,189 (79); New Brunswick, \$1,773,904 (59); Prince Edward Island, \$255,835 (14).

Amusement taxes follow: Quebec, \$4,743,498; British Columbia, \$1,724,085; Alberta, \$1,046,424; Manitoba, \$864,826; Nova Scotia, \$771,857; Saskatchewan, \$624,372; New Brunswick, \$547,691; Prince Edward Island, \$75,292.

Paid admissions were as follows: Quebec, \$48,864,876; British Columbia, \$24,062,010; Manitoba, \$13,054,600; Alberta, \$12,809,597; Nova Scotia, \$10,683,793; Saskatchewan, \$10,155,603; New Brunswick, \$7,027,133; Prince Edward Island, \$920,033.

WB Urges FCC Act On Chi. Video Bid

WASHINGTON, Sept. 14.—Warners today asked the Federal Communications Commission to hold hearings as soon as possible on its application for a Chicago television station.

Warner attorney Marcus Cohn testified at an FCC-industry television conference that it was imperative "for competitive reasons" that the Chicago situation be cleared up at an early date. Paramount already has a Chicago television station, and it was obvious that Warner fears that if the FCC delays much longer, Paramount and other stations already licensed will have too much of a head-start.

Allen B. DuMont, head of DuMont Laboratories, said he now thought it would be necessary to go into the ultra-high frequencies in order to get adequate television service. This was a reversal for DuMont who has been opposing use of the higher bands. Hearings on use of the ultra-high frequencies open here next week.

The two-day industry conference ended today with FCC chairman Wayne Coy announcing that an engineering conference would be held soon on the problems outlined at this conference, and that revision of television engineering standards would wait on the outcome of the engineering conference.

Urges Holding Video From Top Frequency

WASHINGTON, Sept. 14.—Commercial television in the high frequencies should not be permitted until basic standards have been adopted for the lower bands, George Adair, former chief engineer of the Federal Communications Commission, told the FCC recently.

Investment in the present commercial area is so great, Adair said, that all or a large part of television will remain there for a long time. He said experimentation on the use of the higher frequencies should continue.

Video Competes With 'Bad' Films: Goldwyn

SALT LAKE CITY, Sept. 14.—"People will stay home to see bad television rather than go out and pay to see a bad movie," Samuel Goldwyn stated here while en route with his wife to a vacation at Sun Valley.

Goldwyn asserted that the current business slump is affecting all of the entertainment field and not motion pictures alone. The way to overcome the film slump, the producer said, is to produce "better pictures."

Youth To Take Over

SALT LAKE CITY, Sept. 14.—This city's teen-agers will take over operation of downtown first-run theatres on Saturday as a feature of national "Youth Month" in Salt Lake City. Tracy Barham, Intermountain Theatres executive, is in charge of the local theatre phase of the observance.

Delay Warner Dance

CLEVELAND, Sept. 14.—The Warner Club fall dinner-dance, scheduled for tonight, has been postponed to Sept. 21. Affair will take place in the Hickory Grill.

The Spotlight's



n L.A. TODAY!

20th
CENTURY-FOX

IN CONVENTION TODAY
WILL MAKE THE
MOST IMPORTANT
ANNOUNCEMENT IN
ITS HISTORY!

20th Century-Fox, the company that leads the entire industry in acclamation for outstanding achievements and with more champions than any other company on M. P. Herald's list of Boxoffice Champions . . . the only company to make the list every month in '48 . . . and more hits on the Variety Scoreboard than any other company . . . invites the entire industry to join the Spyros P. Skouras 35th Anniversary Celebration September 26 to December 25 inclusive!

Skouras Drive

(Continued from page 1)

history and a record liquidation of backlog product, as well as the attainment of a new mark for volume of feature bookings in a 13-week period. Highlight will be a series of special weeks, climaxed by "20th Century-Fox Anniversary Week," Nov. 21-27, when it is hoped to have the company trademark on the screen of every U. S. theatre.

For the first time, the company's five sales divisions will have home office sponsors. Charged with the responsibility of stimulating the results of their division, the sponsors include W. C. Michel, executive vice-president, sponsor for the Western division; Joseph Moskowitz, vice-president and Eastern studio representative, Eastern division; Donald A. Henderson, treasurer-secretary, Southern division, with the Central division sponsored by Wilfred J. Eadie, comptroller and assistant treasurer, and the Canadian division sponsored by Otto Koegel, chief counsel for the company.

'Cabinet' to Coordinate Drive

Another innovation of the anniversary will be the setting up of a special home office cabinet, Smith stated, to coordinate all campaign activity. Smith will serve as chairman, while others in the cabinet will include William C. Gehring, assistant sales manager; Martin Moskowitz, executive assistant to Smith; Peter Levathes, short subject sales manager; Clarence Hill, manager of branch operations; Charles Schlaifer, director of advertising-publicity; Morris Caplan, statis-

tician to Smith; Roger Ferri, Frank X. Carroll, home office sales analyst; Jack Bloom, home office division aide; Harry Mersay, print department manager; Sam Fishman, contract department manager, and Sam Shain, director of exhibitor relations. The five divisional sponsors will also be members of the cabinet.

Special Field Committee

Field activity for the anniversary will be supervised by a special field committee, composed of the five divisional sales managers: R. E. Moon, East; J. H. Lorentz, Central; H. G. Ballance, South; Herman Wobber, West; Arthur Silverstone, Canada. Within each division, separate leaders have been designated. These will include the following assistant division sales managers: Howard Minsky, East; Harold L. Beecroft, Central; Paul S. Wilson, South, and Bryan D. Stoner, West. The Canadian leader will be announced later by Silverstone.

Realart Meeting

(Continued from page 1)

Carroll Puciato, James Harris, Manny Jacobs, John Mangham, Ken R. Smith, R. S. Carscallen, Bert Stearn, Milton Brauman, Lee J. Goldberg, H. F. Cohen, H. V. George, Scott Lett, Bob Snyder, Manny Stutz, Nelson Wax, Joe Levine, Joe Wolf.

Also, John Franconi, Sam Decker, Henri Elman, Herman Gorelick, Harry Price, Fred Sandy, Bernie Mills, Myron Mills, Sherman S. Krellberg, Moe Kerman, Joe Felder, Carr Scott, Don Swartz, Jack Zide, and other sales personnel.

Review

"Cry of the City"

(20th Century-Fox)

ROBERT SIODMAK'S directorial skill is evidenced in every foot of this spine-tingling look into the last days of a hunted killer, a modern savage who makes a desperate bid for survival in Manhattan's civilized jungle. This is sordid stuff told with a mean melodramatic wallop; it is a heart-pounding thriller, but it can hardly be defined as "entertainment" in the true sense of the word. Loaded with sly dramatic touches that create the illusion of realism, it is director Siodmak's picture all the way, notwithstanding crack performances delivered by a first-rate cast topped by Victor Mature and Richard Conte. For the latter, however, "Cry of the City" is singularly important: it marks his elevation to well-deserved stardom.

Crippled by police bullets and fearful of dying only because of his apprehension that the police will take vengeance on an innocent girl whom he loves, Conte makes his way through back alleys and avenues of New York with police lieutenant-detective Mature in relentless pursuit. The cold-blooded, wily killer lets nothing stand in his way as he follows his dogged course to the side of his girl. He brings misery to his slum-held Italian parents, he stabs to death a not undeserving shyster, he "uses" everyone he meets and accomplishes a *tour de force* double-cross in dealing with an icy-hearted amazon. His trail of blood and tears is brought to an abrupt end with a bullet in the back from the wounded Mature's pistol. Conte's death on a Manhattan sidewalk comes immediately following his unexpected rejection by the girl he loved.

Based on a novel by Henry Edward Helseth, the screenplay was ably done by Richard Murphy. Unpleasant though the proceedings may be, there is considerable redemption in the spotlighting of an intelligent approach to the juvenile delinquency problem. Tommy Cook, in the role of Conte's impressionable young brother, is saved from a similar "career" by virtue of Mature's persuasive reasoning. Also in support are Fred Clark, Shelly Winters, Betty Garde, Berry Kroeger, Debra Paget, Roland Winters and some 30 others. All phases of Sol C. Siegel's production are tops with camera work deserving of special mention. This looks like a money picture, but first make sure your customers can take this sort of stuff.

Running time, 95 minutes. Adult audience classification. For October release. CHARLES L. FRANK

4 Films Rated 'B' as 'Joan of Arc'

Legion Reviews 11

M-G-M's "Julia Misbehaves," Universal's "One Touch of Venus," RKO Radio's "Variety Time" and Scandia Films' "The Bells of the Old City" (Swedish) have been placed in Class "B" by National Legion of Decency in its review of 11 pictures this week. Classified as A-I were: M-G-M's "Hills of Home" and Monogram's "Kidnapped," while 20th Century-Fox's "Cry of the City," Screen Guild's "The Prairie," Paramount's "Sealed Verdict" and United Artists' "Urubu" were rated A-II.

Music Agency

(Continued from page 1)

necessarily disturb Ascap's foreign licensing clearance rights, it is generally conceded it would be impractical for Ascap to sell foreign rights alone.

Mills' idea for a central buying agency for producers is understood to embrace the purchase of foreign rights and their clearance for producers and exhibitors, as well as the domestic recording and performance rights. The plan is designed to eliminate the necessity of dealing with large numbers of individual copyright owners or with numerous smaller agencies which might spring up here in the event Ascap is destroyed as a theatre licensing organization.

Meanwhile, copyright attorneys here, in commenting on plans of exhibitor plaintiffs in the New York anti-Ascap suit and defendants in the Minneapolis action to press for damages against and recovery from Ascap, pointed out that members of the music licensing society are responsible for any judgments obtained against it.

Ascap, they say, is a voluntary, unincorporated organization with the legal status of a partnership; thus, even the personal wealth or resources of its members are subject to judgments.

pictures. Walter Wanger was the producer and Fleming the director.

Announcement of the world premiere was made jointly here yesterday by Wanger, president of Sierra; Ned E. Depinet, president of RKO, and Robert W. Dowling, president of City Investing Co., owner of the Victoria. Negotiations for the presentation were conducted by Robert Mochrie, RKO Radio sales vice-president, and Maurice Maurer, executive of City Entertainment Co., subsidiary of City Investing. Maurer made several flights to Hollywood to consult with Wanger on presentation plans for the film.

The Victoria is now in process of complete reconstruction, under the guidance of E. D. Stone, the architect who designed the interiors of Radio City Music Hall. It is the first theatre on Broadway to be rebuilt since the war. It will have a seating capacity of 1,100. In its lobby, huge murals will delineate scenes from "Joan of Arc."

The opening will be preceded by one of the largest and most intensive national advertising campaigns.

Price scale has not as yet been set.

H. O. Eskin Leases Two

HARTFORD, Sept. 14.—Morris and Dan Pouzzner, operators of the Middlesex and Capitol Theatres in Middletown, have transferred leases on both theatres to Harold G. Eskin of New York. The Pouzzners will retain ownership of the Middlesex Theatre and Middlesex Building.

Maher Plans Drive-In

HARTFORD, Sept. 14.—Philip W. Maher of Bloomfield, Conn., has made application to the State Police Commissioner for a certificate of approval to construct a drive-in theatre in Bloomfield.

No extra fare on American's DC-6 Flagships!



Ride the famous "Mercury" flight to Los Angeles at no increase in cost!

On September 1st, DC-6 and Constellation fares were raised 10 per cent by the transcontinental air lines—with the single exception of American Airlines. On American, you can enjoy luxurious DC-6 service at no increase in cost!

"The Mercury," departing

daily at midnight, EDT and arriving in Los Angeles at 8:10 a.m. PDT, will continue to provide transcontinental travelers with the finest in air travel—at the same fare—only \$157.85. "The Mercury" now has eight roomy Skysleeper berths to supplement 36 seat accommodations.

Phone HAVemeyer 6-5000 or your travel agent

Ticket Offices: Airlines Terminal • Rockefeller Center • Hotel New Yorker
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AMERICAN AIRLINES

What a sight to see!

PARAMOUNT'S GREAT, BIG,
HAPPY LOVE STORY-
WITH MUSIC!

You'll be singing its love
songs...and its praises!
Only young love could
make a picture so glori-
ously gay.

Isn't It Romantic

Starring

VERONICA
LAKE

Now everybody'll know that
V.L. stands for "Violent Love!"

MONA
FREEMAN

She wrote all those sizzling
love letters in "Dear Ruth!"

BILLY
DE WOLFE

Comedy sensation of "Dear
Ruth" and "Blue Skies"!

MARY
HATCHER

The girl who put the spice
of life into "Variety Girl"!

with
ROLAND CULVER • PATRIC KNOWLES

RICHARD WEBB and PEARL BAILEY

Produced by DANIEL DARE
Directed by NORMAN Z. McLEOD

Tunes to set your
heart tapping!

"MISS JULIE JULY"
"WOND'RI'N' WHEN"
"ISN'T IT ROMANTIC?"

Eight Stars So Bright—
Romance So Gay,
You'll Want To Get
It Right Away
From
Paramount

Help Promote
YOUTH MONTH—
Saluting Young America

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY correspondents. Estimates omit admission tax.

CHICAGO

Attendance is off at most theatres. Legionnaires are filling hotels but not theatres. Best among newcomers is "Canon City," with a rousing \$20,000. "A Foreign Affair" is mild. Strongest holdover is "Return of the Bad Men." Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 16:

A FOREIGN AFFAIR (Para.)—CHICAGO (3,900) (50c-65c-98c). On Stage, Ginny Simms. Gross: \$53,000. (Average: \$53,500)
THE BABE RUTH STORY (AA-Mono.)—STATE LAKE (2,700) (50c-65c-98c) 2nd week. Gross: \$23,000. (Average: \$25,000)
CANON CITY (E-L)—ROOSEVELT (1,500) (50c-65c-98c). Gross: \$20,000. (Average: \$18,000)

EASTER PARADE (M-G-M)—WOODS (1,080) (98c) 5th week. Gross: \$17,000. (Average: \$23,000)

GALLANT LEGION (Rep.) and SECRET SERVICE INVESTIGATOR (Rep.)—GAR-RICK (1,000) (50c-65c-85c). Gross: \$8,500. (Average: \$10,000)

LUXURY LINER (M-G-M)—UNITED ARTISTS (1,700) (50c-65c-98c). Gross: \$17,000. (Average: \$20,000)

OLYMPIC GAMES (E-L) and THE SPIRITUALIST (E-L)—APOLLO (1,200) (50c-65c-98c). Gross: \$8,000. (Average: \$12,000)

PITFALL (UA)—ORIENTAL (3,300) (50c-98c). On stage, Jerry Wayne. Gross: \$46,500. (Average: \$45,000)

RETURN OF THE BAD MEN (RKO Radio)—GRAND (1,150) (50c-65c-98c) 5 days, 2nd week. Gross: \$17,000. (Average: \$11,500)

THE VELVET TOUCH (RKO Radio)—PALACE (2,500) (50c-65c-98c). Gross: \$21,000. (Average: \$21,000)

TORONTO

The important development of the week in Toronto filmdom was the opening of the palatial Odeon-Toronto Theatre with the North American premiere of "Oliver Twist," which was accompanied by holdovers at eight other theatres. "The Mating of Millie" finally bowed out at the Biltmore, in its 15th week. Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 16:

CORRIDOR OF MIRRORS (E-L)—DAN-FORTH (1,400) (20c-36c-50c-60c) 6 days. Gross: \$6,500. (Average: \$6,500)

CORRIDOR OF MIRRORS (E-L)—FAIR-LAWN (1,195) (20c-36c-50c-55c) 6 days. Gross: \$5,500. (Average: \$5,500)

A DATE WITH JUDY (M-G-M)—LOEW'S (2,074) (20c-36c-50c-66c-78c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: \$14,000. (Average: \$14,200)

THE EMPEROR WALTZ (Para.)—SHEA'S (2,480) (20c-36c-50c-66c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: \$15,700. (Average: \$14,700)

ESCAPE (20th-Fox)—EGLINTON (1,086)

(20c-36c-50c-66c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: \$5,900. (Average: \$6,900)

ESCAPE (20th-Fox)—TIVOLI (1,434) (20c-36c-50c-66c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: \$7,200. (Average: \$8,200)

THE FABULOUS TEXAN (Rep.) and KING OF THE GAMBLERS (Rep.)—BILTMORE (938) (15c-30c-36c-55c) 6 days. Gross: \$5,000. (Average: \$5,000)

FOREVER AMBER (20th-Fox)—IMPERIAL (3,343) (20c-36c-50c-66c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: \$14,100. (Average: \$14,600)
OLIVER TWIST (E-L)—ODEON-TORONTO (2,390) (20c-35c-50c-60c-70c-80c-1.20) 6 days. Gross: \$21,000. (No average established)

TAP ROOTS (U-I)—UPTOWN (2,761) (20c-36c-50c-66c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: \$8,600. (Average: \$10,600)

TWO GUYS FROM TEXAS (WB)—NORTOWN (950) (20c-42c-60c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: \$4,500. (Average: \$5,000)

TWO GUYS FROM TEXAS (WB)—VICTORIA (1,240) (20c-36c-42c-60c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: \$4,900. (Average: \$5,800)

BOSTON

Ideal weather now prevails in Boston. Holdovers are "Abbott and Costello Meet Frankenstein," "Beyond Glory," "Hamlet." Estimates for the week ending Sept. 15:

ABBOTT AND COSTELLO MEET FRANKENSTEIN (U-I) and ADVENTURES OF DON COYOTE (UA)—RKO BOSTON (3,200) (40c-80c) 2nd week. Gross: \$7,500

BEYOND GLORY (Para.) and MUSIC MAN (Mono.)—METROPOLITAN (4,367) (40c-80c) 2nd week. Gross: \$21,000. (Average: \$27,000)

DREAM GIRL (Para.) and RETURN OF WILDFIRE (SG)—PARAMOUNT (1,700) (40c-80c). Gross: \$15,000. (Average: \$17,000)

DREAM GIRL (Para.) and RETURN OF WILDFIRE (SG)—FENWAY (1,373) (40c-80c). Gross: \$6,900. (Average: \$10,000)

HAMLET (U-I-Rank)—ASTOR (1,300) (90c-2.40) 4th week. Gross: \$23,000.

MR. BLANDING'S BUILDS HIS DREAM HOUSE (SRO) and MEET ME AT DAWN (20th-Fox)—EXETER (1,300) (40c-80c) 3 days. Gross: \$1,500.

OLYMPIC GAMES OF 1948 (E-L-Rank) and CODE OF SCOTLAND YARD (Rep.)—EXETER (1,300) (40c-80c) 4 days. Gross: \$2,750.

PITFALL (UA) and I SURRENDER, DEAR (Col.)—STATE (3,500) (40c-80c). Gross: \$14,500. (Average: \$12,000)

PITFALL (UA) and I SURRENDER, DEAR (Col.)—ORPHEUM (3,000) (40c-80c). Gross: \$25,000. (Average: \$27,000)
TAP ROOTS (U-I) and I SURRENDER, DEAR (Col.)—RKO-MEMORIAL (3,000) (40c-80c) 2nd week. Gross: \$19,000. (Average: \$22,000)

CINCINNATI

New arrivals and holdovers are currently registering average business or better, with "A Date with Judy" in the upper bracket and the world premiere of "The Saxon Charm" running a close second. Estimated receipts for the week ended Sept. 14:

THE BABE RUTH STORY (AA-Mono.)—RKO PALACE (2,700) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: \$16,000. (Average: \$15,000)
BEYOND GLORY (Para.)—RKO ALBEE

(3,300) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: \$15,000. (Average: \$15,000)
A DATE WITH JUDY (M-G-M)—RKO CAPITOL (2,000) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: \$16,000. (Average: \$10,000)
ESCAPE (20th-Fox)—RKO GRAND (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: \$8,000. (Average: \$8,000)
GOOD SAM (RKO Radio)—RKO SHUBERT (2,150) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 2nd week, on a moveover from the Albee. Gross: \$7,000. (Average: \$5,000)
THE SAXON CHARM (U-I)—KEITH'S (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-65c-75c). World premiere. Gross: \$12,000. (Average: \$7,500)
TWO GUYS FROM TEXAS (WB)—RKO LYRIC (1,400) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 2nd week, on a moveover from the Palace. Gross: \$5,500. (Average: \$5,000)

KANSAS CITY

Pleasant fall weather seemed to entice the public out, and to theatres, the weekend bringing first-rate business. The school opening also made the weekend a holiday period for students and families. Stage competition began this week with the two-day engagement of "Oklahoma." Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 14-17:

BAD LANDS OF DAKOTA (FC) and TRAIL OF THE VIGILANTES (FC)—ESQUIRE (800) (45c-65c). Gross: \$2,500. (Average: \$5,000)

BEYOND GLORY (Para.)—PARAMOUNT (1,900) (45c-65c) 2nd week. Gross: \$9,500. (Average: \$10,000)

GOOD SAM (RKO Radio) and DRAGNET (SG)—ORPHEUM (1,900) (45c-65c) 2nd week. Gross: \$14,000. (Average: \$10,000)

RED RIVER (UA) and BLONDE ICE (FC)—MIDLAND (3,500) (45c-65c) 2nd week. Gross: \$18,000. (Average: \$15,000)

TAP ROOTS (U-I)—FAIRWAY (700) (45c-65c). Gross: \$2,150. (Average: \$1,750)

TAP ROOTS (U-I)—TOWER (2,100) (45c-65c). Gross: \$10,500. (Average: \$8,000)

TAP ROOTS (U-I)—UPTOWN (2,000) (45c-65c). Gross: \$7,500. (Average: \$6,000)

BALTIMORE

This week's box-office business is "spotty," with capacity audiences attending the major attractions, and holdovers doing scarcely better than average. Weather conditions were favorable for weekend crowds. "A Foreign Affair" is tops at Keith's. Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 16:

CANON CITY (E-L)—HIPPODROME (2,205) (29c-37c-50c-58c). With a stage show. Gross: \$19,000. (Average: \$17,000)

A DATE WITH JUDY (M-G-M)—CENTURY (3,000) (29c-37c-45c-54c) 2nd week. Gross: \$12,750. (Average: \$14,500)

DRUMS (FC re-release)—VALENCIA (1,466) (29c-37c-45c-54c). Gross: \$4,000. (Average: \$5,000)

A FOREIGN AFFAIR (Para.)—KEITH'S (2,404) (25c-37c-44c-54c). Gross: \$15,500. (Average: \$12,000)

GOOD SAM (RKO Radio)—TOWN (1,450) (29c-37c-56c) 2nd week. Gross: \$10,500. (Average: \$11,000)

THE LUCK OF THE IRISH (20th-Fox)—NEW (1,800) (29c-40c-50c-54c). Gross: \$13,500. (Average: \$11,750)

THE MIKADO (U-I-Prestige)—LITTLE (328) (29c-37c-56c) 2nd week. Gross: \$3,250. (Average: \$3,000)

TEXAS, BROOKLYN AND HEAVEN (UA)—MAYFAIR (1,000) (21c-29c-54c). Gross: \$4,500. (Average: \$5,000)

TWO GUYS FROM TEXAS (WB)—STANLEY (3,280) (29c-37c-50c-58c) 2nd week. Gross: \$7,500. (Average: \$14,500)

ATLANTA

Theatre business is a little above average, with good weather. Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 15:

A DATE WITH JUDY (M-G-M)—LOEW'S GRAND (2,446) (12c-54c) 2nd week. Gross: \$11,000. (Average: \$15,000)

A FOREIGN AFFAIR (Para.)—ROXY (2,446) (12c-50c) 2nd week, on a holdover from the Fox. Gross: \$6,000. (Average: \$5,800)

KEY LARGO (WB)—FOX (4,446) (12c-50c). Gross: \$13,500. (Average: \$15,000)

MAN-EATER OF KUMAON (U-I) and SALOME, WHERE SHE DANCED (U-I)—TOWER (1,865) (17c-54c). Gross: \$6,400. (Average: \$5,800)

K-MTA Maps Agenda For Sept. 28-29 Meet

KANSAS CITY, Sept. 14.—Ascap, public relations, taxes, drive-ins, legislation and "Youth Month" will be among the subjects discussed at the Kansas-Missouri Theatres Association convention here on Sept. 28-29. The meeting will follow shortly after the Theatre Owners of America convention in Chicago on Sept. 24-25.

David Palfreyman of the Motion Picture Association of America, H. Richey, M-G-M exhibitor relations director, and Leon Bamberger, RKO Radio exhibitor relations head, are expected to attend the meeting.

Minnesota Exhibitors Decry New City Tax

DULUTH, Sept. 14.—Recent action here of the League of Minnesota Municipalities in resolving to add to the theatre taxes in Minneapolis, St. Paul and Duluth was condemned at a regional meeting of Northern Minnesota exhibitors attended by both North Central Allied president Ben Berger and executive secretary Stanley Kane. A resolution condemned the League's action as an outright attack on theatres and asserted that theatres object to being singled out for special taxation and discrimination.

Bamberger to Talk To Circuit Heads

Leon J. Bamberger, RKO Radio sales promotion manager, has accepted the invitation of Harold D. Field, president of Pioneer Theatre Corp. to meet with him and managers in Carroll, Ia., on Sept. 22 to speak on theatre advertising, publicity and promotion and act as moderator in an all-day discussion of these topics. Pioneer consists of 22 theatres, mostly in Iowa.

Tri-States Meeting In Memphis Oct. 25

MEMPHIS, Sept. 14.—Tri-States Theatre Owners will meet in Memphis on Oct. 25-26, Morris Collins, president of the organization, announced here today. Theatre men from Arkansas, Mississippi and Tennessee will attend the sessions.

Ohio ITO Meet

(Continued from page 1)

that the industry would see a renewed period of prosperity in the immediate future if all branches of the industry "get on their toes." He hailed as an "overwhelming vindication of Allied policy relative to Ascap" the ruling last week in Minneapolis holding the Society's collection of music licensing fees illegal.

In a speech on television development, Truman Rembusch, president of Allied of Indiana, declared that the Paramount system of television on film is not within range of the average theatre budget. Direct view video still has no adequate theatre equipment, he averred.

Other speakers today included William Ainsworth, Allied president, and J. W. Spiselman, vice-president of Air Purification Service of Newark, N. J. At a special meeting held before the convention opened, Ainsworth described the Allied Caravan service for representatives of 75 small-town theatres.

The annual banquet was held today.

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MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	EAGLE-LION	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIV.-INT'L.	WARNERS	SRO
Aug. 15	(Aug. Releases) STRAWBERRY ROAN Gene Autry Glenn Henry D-79 min. (Rev. 8/20/48) LULU BELLE Dorothy Lamour George Montgomery D-87 min. (Rev. 8/14/48) TRAIL TO LAREDO Charles Starrett Smiley Burnette O-64 min. BLACK ARROW Louis Hayward Janet Blair D-76 min. (Rev. 7/22/42)	LADY AT MIDNIGHT Richard Denney Frances Rafferty D-61 min. (Rev. 7/21/48) THE SPIRITUALIST Turhan Bey Barbara (827) D-79 min. (Rev. 8/6/48)		SILVER TRAILS Jimmy Wakely O-53 min. GOLDEN EYE Roland Winters D-68 min.	A FOREIGN AFFAIR Jean Arthur John Lund D-116 min. (Rev. 6/14/48)	OUT OF THE STORM Jimmy Lyon D-61 min. (Rev. 8/30/48)	THE VELVET TOUCH Rosalind Russell Leo Genn C-94 min. (Rev. 7/20/48)	(Aug. Releases) WALLS OF VERIDIAN Linda Darnell Carmel Wilde D-106 min. (Rev. 7/8/48) THE WINNER'S CIRCLE Jean Willes D	(Monterey) RED RIVER John Wayne D-125 min. (Rev. 7/12/48)	(Aug. Releases) TAP ROOTS Van Heflin Susan Hayward D-109 min. (Rev. 6/24/48) MR. PEABODY AND THE MERMAID William Powell Ann Blyth C-89 min. (Rev. 7/8/48) LARGENY John Garfield D-89 min. (Rev. 8/5/48) ONE TOUCH OF VENUS Ava Gardner Dick Haymes Robert Taylor D-81 1/2 min. (Rev. 8/19/48)	EMBRACEABLE YOU Dane Clark Geraldine Brooks C-94 min. (Rev. 7/30/48)	MR. BLANDINGS BUILDS HIS DREAM HOUSE Cary Grant Myrna Loy C-96 min. (Rev. 3/23/48) (Release date, Aug.) THE PARADINE CASE Gregory Peck Ann Todd D-117 min. (Rev. 12/30/47) VALLI D-120 min. (Rev. 8/16/48) (Release date, Aug.) PORTRAIT OF JENNIE Jennifer Jones Joseph Cotten (Release date, Oct.)
Aug. 22				(Allied Artists) THE DUDE GOES Wesley Eddie Albert Gale Storm O-87 min. (A.A.8) (Rev. 4/26/48)	BEYOND GLORY Donna Reed Alan Ladd D-114 min. (Rev. 6/17/48)	NIGHT TIME IN NEVADA (Color) Roy Rogers D	GOOD SAM Garry Cooper Ann Sheridan D-114 min. (Rev. 7/25/48)	THAT LADY IN ERMINE Betty Grable Douglas Fairbanks D-89 min. (Rev. 7/14/48)	(Regal) PITFALL Dick Powell Elizabeth Scott D-85 min. (Rev. 8/4/48)		TWO GUYS FROM TEXAS Dennis Morgan Jack Carson C-89 min. (Rev. 8/4/48)	
Aug. 29				(Allied Artists) THE BABEY RUTH William Bendix Claire Trevor D-106 min. (Rev. 7/19/48)		CODE OF SCOTLAND YARD Oscar Homolka D-60 min. (Rev. 9/1/48)	VARIETY TIME Eddie Kennedy D-83 min. (Rev. 8/9/48)	FIGHTING BACK Paul Langton D-61 min. (Rev. 7/12/48)				
Sept. 5	(Sept. Releases) BLACK EAGLE, THE Story of a Horse William Bishop Virginia Patton O	IN THIS CORNER Scott Brady D-63 min. (Rev. 8/8/48)	LUXURY LINER (Color) George Brent Jane Powell D-88 min. (Rev. 8/17/48)	WINNER TAKE ALL Joe Kirkwood Elysee Knox D-64 min. (Rev. 8/26/48)	ANGEL IN EXILE John Carroll Adele Mara D	SONS OF ADVENTURE Lynn Roberts Russ Hayden D	TWISTED ROAD Cathy O'Donnell Farley Granger D-95 min. (826) (Rev. 6/30/48)	THE LUCK OF THE IRISH Tyronne Power Anne Baxter DC-99 min. (Rev. 9/1/48)	AN INNOCENT Fred MacMurray Madeleine Carroll DC-90 min. (Rev. 8/30/48)			
Sept. 12	GENTLEMAN FROM NOWHERE Warner Baxter Fay Baker D	LET'S LIVE A LITTLE Robert Cummings Hedy Lamarr D		SHERIFF OF MEDICINE BOW O	SON OF GOD'S COUNTRY Monte Hale		RACE STREET George Raft William Bendix D-79 min. (821) (Rev. 6/24/48)	THE CREEPER Eduardo Gancedo D-64 min. (Rev. 9/1/48)	ROPE (Color) James Stewart Joan Pauley D-83 min. (802) (Rev. 8/26/48)			
Sept. 19	SINGING SPURS Hoosier Hotshots Kirby Grant O	OLYMPIC GAMES OF 1948 (Documentary)	A SOUTHERN YANKEE Red Skelton Brian Donley D-91 min. (Rev. 8/6/48)		SORRY, WRONG NUMBER Barbara Stanwyck Burt Lancaster D-91 min. (Rev. 7/29/48)			ESCAPE Rex Harrison Peggy Cummins D-87 min. (817) (Rev. 5/29/48)				
Sept. 26	WALK A CROOKED MILE Dennis O'Keefe Louis Hayward D-91 min. (Rev. 9/1/48)	BLANCHE FURY (Color) Valerie Rogers D-93 min. (Rev. 9/1/48)					RACHEL AND THE STRANGER Loretta Young Robert Mitchum D-83 min. (Rev. 8/3/48)	THE GAY INTRUDERS John Emery Tamara Gova DC-88 min. (Rev. 6/21/48)	(Bogues) GIRL FROM MANHATTAN Dorothy Lamour Charles Laughton D-81 min.		SMART GIRLS DON'T TALK Virginia Mayo Bruce Bennett D-81 min. (803) (Rev. date: Oct.)	
Oct. 3	(Oct. Releases) LOVES OF CARMEN (Color) Rita Hayworth Glenn Ford D-88 min. (Rev. 8/20/48)	HOLLOW TRIUMPH Paul Henreid Jean Bennett O-83 min. (Rev. 8/10/48)	JULIA MISBEHAVES Greer Garson Walter Pidgeon D-99 min. (Rev. 8/13/48)		ISN'T IT ROMANTIC Veronica Lake Roland Culver DC-87 min. (Rev. 8/18/48)			CRY OF THE CITY Victor Mature Richard Widmark D-85 min. (841)				
Oct. 10	I SURRENDER DEAR Gloria Jean D-68 min. (Rev. 7/30/48)	ADVENTURES OF GALLANT BESS Cameron Mitchell D-73 min. (Rev. 7/30/48)	(Enterprise) NO MINOR VICES Dana Andrews Lilli Palmer C D					APARTMENT FOR PEGGY (Color) Jeanne Crain William Holden D-89 min. (832) (Rev. 9/9/48)				
Oct. 17	RUSTY LEADS THE WAY Ted Donaldson D-59 min.	BEHIND LOCKED DOORS Lucille Bremer Richard Carlson D-61 min. (Rev. 9/7/48)	SECRET LAND (Color) Doris Merrick D-72 min. (Rev. 8/25/48)		NIGHT HAS A THOUSAND EYES Eow. G. Robinson Michael Redgrave D-81 min. (803) (Rev. 7/12/48)		MOURNING BECOMES ELECTRA Rosalind Russell Michael Redgrave D-170 min. (904) (Rev. 11/19/47)				JOHNNY BELINDA Jane Wyman Law Ayres D-102 min. (804) (Rev. 9/14/48)	
Oct. 24	THE UNTAMED BREED (Color) Sonny Tufts Barbara Britton D							NIGHT WIND Charles Russell D-68 min. (813) (Rev. 8/25/48)				
	EL DORADO PASS Charles Starrett O											

[Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following: (D) Drama. (M) Musical. (C) Comedy. (IO) Outdoor Action. Production Numbers Are in Parentheses. (Rev.) Motion Picture Daily Review Date.]

National Carbon Company, Inc.
presents:

World Premiere
**"CARBON ARC
PROJECTION"**
in Technicolor

**At Meeting of Theatre Equipment
and Supply Manufacturers...and
Theatre Equipment Supply Dealers**

SEE "CARBON ARC PROJECTION"—15 minutes of vivid fast-moving Technicolor—the first movie ever produced to show the *what . . . why . . . and how* of the High Intensity Carbon Arc. World premiere at 2 P.M., September 30, in the Hotel Jefferson, St. Louis, Missouri.

Or write for our colorful folder, "Carbon Arc Projection," which spotlights the high points of the picture and explains how to obtain 35mm and 16mm prints for special showings! See address at right.

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Accurate
Concise
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MOTION PICTURE DAILY

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VOLUME 64, NO. 54

NEW YORK, U. S. A., THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1948

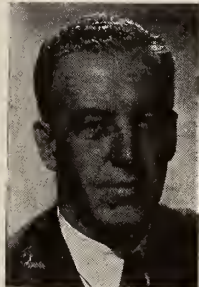
TEN CENTS

Smith Lists 32 for 20th For 1948-49

Campaigns for Half Are All Ready: Schlaifer

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 15.—Andy W. Smith, Jr., 20th Century-Fox general sales manager, detailed today before delegates to the company's national sales conference here a release schedule of product for the next 12 months which offers exhibitors two or more features monthly to Sept., 1949, for a total of 32, of which 20 are ready for delivery. Seven will be in Technicolor and one in Cinecolor.

The company's advertising, publicity, exploitation and radio departments already have completed over-all campaigns.



Andy W. Smith, Jr.

Hammons to Market Films for Video

Earle W. Hammons, veteran industry executive, disclosed here yesterday that he intends to form a new company to engage in film distribution for television. The founder of Educational Pictures and former president of Grand National, both now defunct, is preparing 125 of his own films for sale to telecasters, including 20 features and 18 Westerns.

Hammons said he recognizes that video is not economically equipped to

House Business Unit Hears Views in K.C.

KANSAS CITY, Sept. 15.—While emphasizing that the cross-licensing ban is a "crucial remedy" for many conditions which independent exhibitors find objectionable, Louis Sosno, exhibitor of Moberly, Mo., today asked the House Small Business Committee to find a way of stopping "uncontrolled competitive bidding" pending

Urges 1,700 Quota Cuts

LONDON, Sept. 15.—"Substantial reductions" in the film quota have been recommended by the British Film Council for some 1,700 British theatres, with the reductions to apply in varying degree. (Theatres grossing under 100 pounds—\$400—weekly are exempted from quota regulations.)

The British Board of Trade does not expect that its president, Harold Wilson, will make any official statement regarding the Council's recommendation for several days, possibly not until after the new 45 per cent quota becomes effective on Oct. 1.

Variety's Mid-Year Meet Starts Today

WASHINGTON, Sept. 15.—A crowded business and social program await delegates convening here tomorrow for Variety Club's three-day mid-year conference, with about 45 international officers and canvassmen, representing almost every tent in the country, expected. Climax of the meeting will be Saturday night's formal dinner at which Variety's annual Humanitarian Award is to be presented to Secretary of State George C. Marshall.

Items slated for discussion at business sessions tomorrow, Friday, and possibly Saturday, include: Discussion of handling the premieres for Monogram's "Bad Boy"—Variety is getting a percentage of the premieres of the film, which is based on the

(Continued on page 4)

Loew's Joins in Quiz On US Trust Evidence

Jersey Allied Okays Smith Conciliation

New Jersey Allied's board of directors has voted unanimously to adopt the Andy W. Smith, Jr., exhibitor conciliation plan.

The board accepted the plan, it was said, "in the confidence that the plan would be successful in bringing about a satisfactory solution to any problems arising between Jersey Allied and 20th Century-Fox." Smith is 20th-Fox's general sales manager.

'O. K.' ROAD SHOWS FOR INDEPENDENTS

New England Owners Stop Paying Ascap.

Boston, Sept. 15.—New England exhibitors are jubilant over Judge Gunnar Nordbye's Minneapolis decision that Ascap cannot collect from exhibitors. It is expected that owners who continued to pay Ascap will discontinue to do so immediately. Many circuits and independents have already stopped paying.

Film Dividends Drop To \$2,964,000

WASHINGTON, Sept. 15.—Publicly reported cash dividend payments by motion picture companies in July were sharply below July, 1947, accentuating a trend developing since the end of last year, the U. S. Commerce Department revealed here today.

Lower dividends by RKO and Warner dropped the July, 1948, figure to \$2,964,000, compared with \$4,571,000 in July, 1947. Commerce usually figures publicly reported cash dividends as representing about 65 per cent of all cash dividends.

"There is no longer any doubt that film dividends are way off," a Depart-

(Continued on page 6)

U.S. Attorney Says Price Fixing Ban Is Unlikely to Apply to Non-Defendants

WASHINGTON, Sept. 15.—U. S. Justice Department attorney Robert L. Wright said today that the Supreme Court's Paramount case ban on admission price fixing bound only the defendants in the case and that he "doubted" that it would apply to independent producers trying to make private arrangements with exhibitors for handling their own product.

A controversy has long been raging among industry lawyers as to whether the Paramount decision ban applied to non-defendants as well as defendants. Walter Wanger touched off the controversy again recently by his announcement that he planned to sell his "Joan of Arc" at advanced prices.

Some industry attorneys have declared that even though the Paramount decision actually binds only the

(Continued on page 4)

Confirm Gamble to Leave TOA Post

Theatre Owners of America yesterday confirmed that Ted R. Gamble will withdraw from the presidency of the organization at its convention in Chicago on Sept. 24-25. It is known that efforts have been made to induce Gamble to be a candidate for reelection but he has steadfastly maintained that the post should be rotated.

TOA, in a press statement, reported that Gamble will preside at the two-day Chicago meeting which will open with a welcoming address by Chicago's Mayor Martin Kennelly. Edward H. Foley, Jr., Undersecretary of the

(Continued on page 4)

'IA' Work Stoppage Set for U-I Today

A breakdown in new contract negotiations between Universal-International and the IATSE local representing the company's 425 home office "white collar" employees is expected to produce a full-scale work stoppage at U-I today. Russell Moss, business agent of "IA" Motion Picture Home Office Employees Local No. H-63,

(Continued on page 6)

Ohio ITO Seeks End Of City Tax Power

COLUMBUS, O., Sept. 15.—Repeal of the Ohio law which permits municipalities to levy admission taxes will be sought by the Independent Theatre Owners of Ohio with a view to having the power returned to the state. A resolution empowering P. J. Wood, Ohio ITO secretary, to seek repeal of the enabling legislation was adopted today at the concluding session of the organization's convention here.

The ITO unit will also seek to have theatres included in legislation calling for a two per cent gross receipts tax which may be introduced at the next session of the Ohio legislature.

Wood was also instructed to seek legal counsel on the question of whether National Screen Service is engaged in monopolistic practices. It was reported at the convention that NSS has been charging theatres in comparable situations different prices for the same material.

Convention delegates also approved: the Cryptix ticket numbering system developed by Willis Vance, Cincinnati exhibitor; an investigation of trucking charges, and the Allied Caravan plan for small towns.

Henry Greenberger, president of Community Theatres in Cleveland, was elected a vice-president and was the only new officer elected by the convention. Incumbent officers and board members were reelected. Officers are Martin Smith, president; F. W. Huss, Jr., vice-president; Leo Kessel, treasurer, and Wood as secretary.

PCC Members Seen Halting Ascap Fees

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 15.—Members of the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners will be advised by the organization's trustees to "cease negotiations" with the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers. While not explicitly stating so, it is understood that the action voted by the trustees at their meeting here is tantamount to advising members to stop paying music licensing fees to Ascap.

Leroy Johnson, chairman of the PCCITO committee on Ascap, lauded attorney Robert W. Graham for his preparation of the *amicus curiae* briefs in the New York and Minnesota cases which were decided against the Society.

TOA Presents Watch To 'Youth of Year'

WASHINGTON, Sept. 15.—As part of the local observance of Youth Month, Theatre Owners of America today presented a gold stop-watch to Bob Mathias, Olympic decathlon champion who was chosen "Youth of the Year" by the Sports Broadcasters Association. The presentation was made by A. Julian Brylawski, head of the local TOA Youth Month campaign.

Mathias also met President Truman at the White House, had dinner with Attorney General Tom Clark and topped the day with a broadcast over the "Tex and Jinx" program.

Personal Mention

HENRY GINSBERG, Paramount production vice-president, will leave New York tomorrow for the Coast.

A. M. KANE, assistant to Paramount Southern district manager HUGH OWEN, has left Atlanta for New York after a visit in that city.

MAURICE WOLF of M-G-M's public relations department here, addressed the Albany, N. Y., Kiwanis Club on Tuesday.

WILLIAM DEMELLO, manager of Western Electric's Caribbean operations, has left here to return to his post at Bogota.

CALVIN LEEDER and SOL KRAVITZ, Warner home office representatives, were in Atlanta this week from New York.

H. M. RICHEY, M-G-M exhibitor relations head, will return to New York today from Columbus, O.

RUSSELL STEWART of M-G-M's publicity department will leave here Monday for Washington.

EDWARD BUZZELL, M-G-M director, is here from the Coast.

L. Brandt Named E-L Exploitation Manager

Leon Brandt, Eagle-Lion field exploiter in the Chicago territory, has been named national exploitation manager, succeeding Arthur Jeffrey whose resignation will become effective on Oct. 1, it was announced here yesterday by E-L advertising-publicity vice-president Max E. Youngstein.

Brandt, who has been with E-L since its inception two years ago, entered the industry in 1930 when he joined Fox Theatres. In 1942 he joined United Artists where he worked in exploitation and national promotional posts prior to his joining E-L.

Whitmore Heads ATT Radio Advertising

Will Whitmore, advertising manager of Western Electric since May 1945, has been appointed radio advertising manager of American Telephone and Telegraph. W. M. Reynolds, publications manager of Western Electric, will have charge of Western Electric's advertising.

In 1927 Whitmore joined the *Exhibitors' Herald-World* editorial staff and two years later entered Western Electric. The *Herald-World* was a predecessor of *Motion Picture Herald*.

Set New Drive-Ins

MINNEAPOLIS, Sept. 15.—Construction on a 750-car drive-in in Brooklyn township will be started immediately by Minnesota Entertainment Enterprises, according to William Sears, general manager. Another drive-in, marking the company's fourth, will be started also in St. Paul limits, Sears said. He also disclosed that a fifth drive-in will be announced shortly.

OSCAR F. NEU, president of Neu-made Products and head of TESMA, has left here for a Midwest trip and is due in St. Louis for the TESMA trade show Sept. 28-30.

BILL WILLIAMS, Film Classics salesman in Denver, has resigned to become general manager of the newly-organized Santa Fe Theatre Corp., which will build a \$185,000 theatre in Santa Fe to open on Oct. 17.

MAURICE A. BERGMAN, Universal-International advertising-publicity director, and CHARLES SIMONELLI, Eastern exploitation manager, have returned to New York from Columbus, O.

DORIS GLASS of the Universal-International advertising department here, and LEONARD KOPLIN of Philadelphia, will be married in December.

RUBE JACKTER, assistant general sales manager of Columbia, was in Memphis yesterday from New York.

BERT STEARN, Fortune Films executive, has returned to his office in Pittsburgh from Hollywood.

E. Z. WALTERS, Altec comptroller, is in town from the Coast.

WB Asks High Court Bar Leslie Appeal

WASHINGTON, Sept. 15.—Warner Brothers today asked the Supreme Court not to review a California Supreme Court decision allowing the company to proceed with its breach of contract suit against Joan Leslie, who, on reaching 21, broke a contract made with Warner when she was 17, on the ground a minor could not make a valid contract.

Warner sued to enforce the contract and keep her from working for other studios, but the lower courts ruled for Miss Leslie. The top California court, however, ruled that Warner could bring the suit and ordered the case tried on its merits. Miss Leslie appealed to the Supreme Court.

The Warner brief pointed out that the California Supreme Court had not decided the case, but merely had given a green light to trying the case.

M. M. P. T. A. Post to Brecher on Oct. 1

Leo Brecher, New York circuit operator, will take over the presidency of the Metropolitan Motion Picture Theatres Association here on Oct. 1, succeeding Fred J. Schwartz who will become board chairman.

Other nominations, all tantamount to election at a meeting next week, include: Edward Rugoff, first vice-president; Sol Strausberg, second vice-president; Russell Downey, treasurer. Named to the board are: Brecher, Schwartz, Rugoff, Strausberg, Downey, and Malcolm Kingsberg; Oscar Doob, Sam Rinzler, Robert Weitman, Julius Joelson, Sam Rosen, David Katz and Harry Goldberg.

Expand Film Sphere For 'Iron Curtain'

Washington Sept. 15. — A Polish-Yugoslav film agreement has been signed to increase the exchange of films between the two "Iron Curtain" nations, the Commerce Department reports. The agreement is valid until the end of 1949.

Golden Will Produce Press Club's 'Russia'

Edward A. Golden will produce this year a film version of "As We Saw Russia," fourth book to be written by members of the Overseas Press Club. Published yesterday by E. P. Dutton and Co., the book describes life in the U.S.S.R. as seen by 25 on-the-spot American newsmen.

Golden announced his purchase of the book's screen rights at yesterday's luncheon-meeting of the OPC at which Norman Thomas, Socialist candidate for President, was the principal speaker.

Johnston, Red Film Officials in Parley

Eric A. Johnston, Motion Picture Association of America president, conferred in Moscow yesterday with Soviet film officials, according to press dispatches reaching here last night. He reportedly said he had a "pleasant and interesting" conversation and that there appeared to be a good chance that the Russians would buy some U. S. films.

The report also said he expects to leave Moscow on Monday but did not disclose his destination.

M-G-M Luncheon Today

First session of M-G-M's executive training course will get under way here today at the Hotel Astor when William F. Rodgers, sales vice-president, welcomes six field men at a luncheon. Also attending from the home office will be Edward M. Saunders, Edwin W. Aaron, John P. Byrne, H. M. Richey and M. L. Simons. The six include Michael J. Ford, Chicago; Philip F. Gravitz, New Haven; H. Russell Gaus, Los Angeles; Louis Marks, Cleveland; Ansley B. Padgett, Atlanta; Louis J. Weber, Dallas.

B. & K Engineer Killed

CHICAGO, Sept. 15.—Pearson Bolander, 42, engineer for the Balaban and Katz Century Theatre, was asphyxiated yesterday while attempting to repair a gas valve on air conditioning equipment in the basement of the theatre. An attempt to rescue Bolander was made by Herbert Chatkin, the theatre's manager, who was partially overcome by gas.

Executors of Powers Will

David A. O'Malley and Glen Behymer, Los Angeles attorney, have been made co-executors under the will of Patrick A. Powers. The estate has been left to relatives, friends, employees and charities.

GLOBE
NOW!!!

ROPE

TECHNICOLOR

WARNER BROS. present
JAMES STEWART
in
ALFRED HITCHCOCK'S
ROPE

with JOHN DALL • FARLEY GRANGER
SIR CEDRIC HARDWICKE • CONSTANCE COLLIER
and JOAN CHANDLER

Screen Play by ARTHUR LAURENTS • From the Play by Patrick
Hamilton • Director of Photography, Joseph Valentine, A.S.C.

A TRANSATLANTIC PICTURE

NOTHING
EVER HELD
NEW YORK
LIKE
ALFRED
HITCHCOCK'S
ROPE

*All-Time
Record
In All-Time
Record Heat!*

UA Managerial Posts To Three Overseas

Appointments of Armando Bernal, former United Artists branch manager in Cali, Colombia, as general manager for the territory with headquarters in Bogota, and of Merrill Gooding, booker in the company's office in Port of Spain, Trinidad, to acting manager there have been announced here by Walter Gould, UA foreign manager. Bernal succeeds James Raymond and Gooding replaces Randolph de Silva.

Gould also announced the appointment of J. Engelstoft as manager in Denmark, replacing Viggo Ellemann, resigned. Engelstoft has been associated with Universal in Copenhagen for the past 12 years.

To Distribute U. A. Films in N. Africa

Pathe Consortium Cinema and United Artists' Paris office have negotiated a deal whereby Pathe will distribute the company's product in Algiers, Tunis and Casablanca, it has been announced here by Walter Gould, UA foreign manager. Distribution in Algiers, where UA formerly had its own branch office, started July 1, and will become effective in Tunis and Casablanca on Oct. 1.

Variety Meeting

(Continued from page 1)

Dallas Tent's Boy's Camp; expansion both here and abroad, including a possible new London Tent; erection of a memorial to Father Flanagan; philanthropic and fund-raising activities, and regular reports of officers. A luncheon on Friday will discuss whether Variety should take over the Will Rogers Memorial Sanatorium. RKO Radio sales manager Robert Mochrie, Paramount sales manager Charles Reagan, and M-G-M sales manager William Rodgers are slated to address the luncheon.

Tomorrow night, Variety International chief barker R. J. O'Donnell will be toasted at a dinner to be given by Vincent Fowler, and Friday night a cocktail party will be given at the local Variety Tent. Many industry officials who will not participate in the conference are expected to attend the O'Donnell dinner, and both industry and Government officials will turn out for the Humanitarian Award dinner.

Red Skelton will be master-of-ceremonies of the entertainment program.

Another Variety Tourney

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 15.—Bob Russell will be master-of-ceremonies at the local Variety Club's golf tournament on Sept. 24 at the Whitmarsh Country Club.



**BANKING FOR THE
MOTION PICTURE
INDUSTRY**

**BANKERS TRUST
COMPANY**

NEW YORK

MEMBER FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

Review

"The Girl from Manhattan"

(Bogaus-United Artists)

THE familiar yarn about the old boarding house about to be foreclosed by a local scoundrel goes through the wringer again, this time with some comic frills. The cast is one with ticket selling ability, but the task of overcoming some of the plot's limp situations frequently proves a heavy burden. Heading the players of this Benedict Bogaus production are Dorothy Lamour, George Montgomery and Charles Laughton. Others include Ernest Truex, Hugh Herbert and William Frawley.

Truex, as operator of the boarding house, seems to have more kindness than wisdom. His tenants prove a zany lot who never pay their rent and always hope to strike it rich some day. The situation is natural for someone to foreclose the mortgage, and that's just what is about to happen when the new minister, Montgomery, aided by Miss Lamour, a fashion model, starts to rescue the situation. It takes a bit of scheming, punctuated by some misunderstandings, before the old homestead is saved.

Laughton, as a sly old bishop, contributes a humorous characterization. In more conventional roles, Montgomery and Miss Lamour are adequate. The original screenplay by Howard Estabrook has the villain of the plot concealing his nefarious doings by attempting to contribute a site for the erection of a new church. Alfred E. Green directed, Bogaus produced.

Running time, 81 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Oct. 1.

MANDEL HERBSTMAN

Program for Women At TOA Convention

CHICAGO, Sept. 15.—Several programs have been arranged for women guests at the Theatre Owners of America Convention, Sept. 24-25 in the Drake Hotel, Chicago.

Among events arranged by the women's entertainment committee, composed of Mrs. John Balaban, chairman; Mrs. James E. Coston, Mrs. George Kerasotes, Mrs. Morris G. Leonard and Mrs. Edward Zorn, are a luncheon and fashion show at Marshall Field's, a sight-seeing tour and a second luncheon, in the Edgewater Beach Hotel.

Gamble, TOA

(Continued from page 1)

Treasury, will speak on taxation. A theatre television demonstration is scheduled for the Esquire Theatre, to be followed by a discussion of the subject by Wayne Coy, chairman of the Federal Communications Commission.

Other matters on the agenda are the industry's anti-trust case, the rulings against the American Society of Composers and Publishers, drive-ins, 16mm. competition and public relations.

Hammons to Market

(Continued from page 1)

offer film fare approaching present Hollywood standards and expounded the theory that the new industry is akin to the motion picture when it was revolutionized by sound. What was saleable in the early '30s in theatres will have its counterpart in television today, he reasons, explaining that the first sound pictures were not better for the theatre, at the time, than product available for television now.

In addition to supplying his own films, Hammons plans to acquire video rights to others for marketing, and he might produce both film and studio programs for telecasts.

To Hear Wolfson-Meyer

WASHINGTON, Sept. 15.—The Federal Communications Commission has agreed to give the Wolfson-Meyer Circuit a hearing in connection with the Commission's action cancelling its construction permit for television station WTVJ in Miami.

Loew's Joins Quiz

(Continued from page 1)

ly to the Department in Washington, but in the cases of RKO and Paramount copies also were filed in New York Federal Court.

Paramount, for example, tells of its contractual ties with E. V. Richards in the operation of the extensive Paramount-Richard Theatres in the South. The partnership directly operates and fully controls 37 theatres and has large interests, through subsidiaries, in 35 more, in Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Florida, Texas and Arkansas.

Paramount, in its answer to the Government inquiry, sets forth that it acquired all stock in the partnership as an original issue, that it transferred 3,000 'A' shares to Richards, and held the remaining 3,000 'B' shares. Each has equal representation on the six-man board, Richards electing the president and secretary, and Paramount the vice-president and treasurer.

Paramount may request Richards to fix a base price for the sale of all Class A stock or the purchase of Paramount's 'B' shares, the base price to be determined according to a formula arrangement which is part of the pact. If the request is made prior to April 29, 1950, Paramount has the right to purchase all of Richards' 'A' stock at 50 per cent of the base price so fixed, or else require Richards to purchase its 'B' shares at half the base price.

If the request is made after the 1950 date the price for purchase by either party of the other's stock will be 100 per cent of the base price.

'Carbon Arc' Short Has Premiere Here

A 15-minute commercial documentary, "Carbon Arc Projection," produced in Technicolor by John Sutherland and directed by Norman Wright for National Carbon Co., had its premiere here yesterday at RCA's Exhibit Hall. The film, available in 16 and 35mm., describes effectively and interestingly how a remarkably close approach to sunlight has been achieved to give motion pictures full visual value in clarity and color. National Carbon has ruled that no admission may be charged.

Several National Carbon executives attended yesterday's screening, among them C. G. Ollinger, C. O. Kleinsmith, D. V. Joy and E. R. Geib.

C.L.F.

'O. K.' Road Shows

(Continued from page 1)

defendants, it could be cited as a precedent for a treble-damage suit by an exhibitor against a non-defendant demanding advanced prices, or as a precedent for a Justice Department injunction against an independent.

Wright admitted that the Paramount decision does lay down a principle in law which "has wider application than just to the defendants," but pointed out that in order to apply this principle, similar facts must be proven.

"You would have to show some purpose to restrain competition," he declared. "I don't think the findings could exist against Wanger, for instance, that we had against the Paramount defendants. You must bring the facts in your case in conformity with the facts in the case you want to cite as precedent in order that the court will apply the precedent. Many facts exist differently in the case of the independent non-defendants from the facts in the Paramount case."

Wright refused to say flatly whether Justice would move against any independent selling a film at advanced prices, but the general impression certainly was that Justice could not see any grounds for such action.

Mulvey Agrees Non-Defendants May Charge Advanced Prices

James Mulvey, president of Samuel Goldwyn Productions, and executive representative here of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, commented yesterday that "It is nice to have the Department of Justice in agreement with us."

"We have taken the position that the Supreme Court decision on price fixing does not apply to independent, non-defendant producers and distributors so long as collusion does not enter into the method of marketing films."

"It is our view that we can ask what terms we think best for our pictures. There is no compulsion upon any exhibitor to accept them if he doesn't like them," Mulvey said.

House Business Unit

(Continued from page 1)

ing the outcome of the U. S. vs. Paramount *et al* anti-trust case.

Sosna was one of several exhibitors who appeared at the hearing conducted by Walter C. Ploeser, chairman of the House unit. A dozen other persons from the film business, including circuit representatives and distributor representatives, were present as observers.

Exhibitors who testified indicated that they hoped for legislation that would correct alleged evils quickly, in contrast with delay caused by court proceedings.

L. V. Larsen, exhibitor of Webb City, Mo., and president of the Kansas City Allied unit, gave examples in general terms of what he called hardships through domination of the field by circuits in preferential buying and otherwise. Fred D. Herbst, buyer and booker at the Kansas City Allied offices, outlined the local clearance arrangement in which, he said, there is only one first-run independent. He also said that with few exceptions independents get no less than 45 to 50 days dating on pictures.

Ah Youth!
Ah Love!

Ah Music!

AH...WHAT'S THE USE
TALKING... YOU'VE
JUST GOTTA GO SEE
PARAMOUNT'S
STORY OF GAY
YOUNG LOVE, SET
TO GLORIOUS NEW
HIT TUNES!

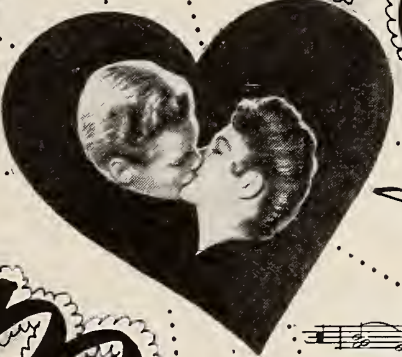
A Treat To See—
A Cinch To Sell,
Another Hit
To Ring The Bell
From
Paramount

Isn't it Romantic?



You aint heard
nothing yet!

"Miss Julie July"
"Wond'rin' When"
"Isn't It Romantic?"
... and many merry
more!



Starring
VERONICA

LAKE

MONA

FREEMAN

She wrote all those sizzling
love letters in "Dear Ruth"!

BILLY

DE WOLFE

MARY

HATCHER

Comedy sensation of "Dear
Ruth" and "Blue Skies"!

The girl who put the spice
of life into "Variety Girl"!

with ROLAND CULVER

PATRIC KNOWLES

RICHARD WEBB

PEARL BAILEY

Produced by DANIEL DARE

Directed by NORMAN Z. McLEOD

Help Promote
YOUTH MONTH—
Saluting Young America

Smith Lists 32

(Continued from page 1)

paigns for each of the company's productions through next February, Charles Schlaifer, director of advertising-exploitation, announced to the delegates.

Special promotion folders prepared for 10 productions in the "Spyros P. Skouras 35th Anniversary Celebration" were distributed to each delegate.

Included among sales promotion steps cited by Schlaifer are three new exhibitor aids: advertising prevues, bi-monthly newsletters and a new-style press book. All combine to implement the company policy of constantly improving exhibitor service.

To Release 54 Shorts

Twentieth will release 54 short subjects during 1949, Peter Levathes, short subjects sales manager, announced at the convention. These will consist of 19 Movietones, six of which will be in Technicolor; 22 Terrytoons, including two reissues, and 13 March of Time subjects, in addition to 104 issues of Movietone News.

The company will produce 30 of the 32 features contemplated in addition to Darryl F. Zanuck's "The Snake Pit," and will release two independent productions, "Canadian Pacific," starring Randolph Scott, for producer Nat Holt, and "Belle Starr's Daughter," starring George Montgomery and Rod Cameron, for Edward Alpersen.

Features listed by Smith for 1948-49 follow:

September: "The Luck of the Irish," starring Tyrone Power and Anne Baxter, produced by Fred Kohlmar and directed by Henry Koster; "Escape," starring Rex Harrison and Peggy Cummins, from the John Galsworthy drama, produced by William Perlberg and directed by Joseph L. Mankiewicz; "Forever Amber," in Technicolor, starring Linda Darnell, Cornel Wilde, Richard Greene and George Sanders, William Perlberg producer, and Otto Preminger director.

October: "Cry of the City," starring Victor Mature and Richard Conte, produced by Sol C. Siegel and directed by Robert Siodmak; "Apartment for Peggy," in Technicolor, starring Jeanne Crain, William Holden and Edmund Gwenn, produced by William Perlberg and directed by George Seaton.

Three Set for November

November: "Road House," starring Cornel Wilde, Ida Lupino, Celeste Holm and Richard Widmark, directed by Jean Negulesco, from a screenplay by Edward Chodorov, who also produced; "When My Baby Smiles At Me," in Technicolor, starring Betty Grable and Dan Dailey, produced by George Jessel and directed by Walter Lang; "Belle Starr's Daughter," an independent Edward Alpersen production.

December: "Yellow Sky," starring Gregory Peck, Anne Baxter and Richard Widmark, directed by William A. Wellman from a screenplay by Lamar Trotti, who also produced; "Unfaithfully Yours," starring Rex Harrison, Linda Darnell, Rudy Vallee and Barbara Lawrence, written, di-

rected and produced by Preston Sturges. January: "Mr. Belvedere Goes to College," starring Clifton Webb, produced by Samuel G. Engel; "Canadian Pacific," an independent Nat Holt production, in Cinecolor, starring Randolph Scott and directed by Edward Marin.

February: "The Fan," starring Madeleine Carroll, Jeanne Crain, Richard Greene and George Sanders, produced and directed by Otto Preminger; "That Wonderful Urge," starring Tyrone Power and Gene Tierney, produced by Fred Kohlmar and directed by Robert Sinclair.

March: Will James' "Sand," in Technicolor, with Mark Stevens, Coleen Gray, Rory Calhoun and Charley Grapewin, Robert Bassler produced and Louis King directed; "Down to the Sea in Ships," starring Richard Widmark, Lionel Barrymore and Dean Stockwell, produced by Louis D. Lighton and directed by Henry Hathaway; "Come to the Stable," starring Loretta Young and Celeste Holm, by Samuel G. Engel and directed by Henry Koster, from a screenplay by Clare Boothe Luce.

April: "Affairs of Adelaide," starring Maureen O'Hara and Dana Andrews, under production in England by William Perlberg, with Jean Negulesco directing; "Chicken Every Sunday," starring Dan Dailey and Celeste Holm, William Perlberg producing and George Seaton directing; "I'll Never Go There Anymore," starring Victor Mature, to be produced by Sol C. Siegel.

May: "Letter to Three Wives," starring Linda Darnell, Ann Sothern, Jeanne Crain, Jeffrey Lynn, Kirk Douglas and Paul Douglas. Sol C. Siegel produced and Joseph L. Mankiewicz directed; "Mother Is a Freshman," in Technicolor, co-starring Loretta Young and Van Johnson, produced by Walter Morosco and directed by Lloyd Bacon; "Inside Scotland Yard," to be produced in England by Samuel G. Engel.

'Prince of Foxes' for June

June: "Prince of Foxes," starring Tyrone Power and Orson Welles, to be produced in Italy by Sol C. Siegel, with Henry King directing; "I Was a Male War Bride," starring Cary Grant and Ann Sheridan, to be produced in England, France and Germany by Sol C. Siegel, with Howard Hawks directing; "You're My Everything," in Technicolor, starring June Haver and Dan Dailey, produced by George Jessel.

July: "Beyond Five Fathoms," to be directed by Elia Kazan off the coast of Florida; "Canadian Royal Mounted Police," to be produced in Canada by Samuel G. Engel, to star Mark Stevens.

August: "Beautiful Blonde from Bashful Bend," in Technicolor, starring Betty Grable, to be written, directed and produced by Preston Sturges; "Cloak of Innocence," starring Richard Widmark, to be produced and directed by Otto Preminger; "Fire," to be produced in cooperation with the United States Forestry Service by Samuel G. Engel.

September: "Waltz Into Darkness," starring Linda Darnell and Cornel Wilde, to be produced by George Jessel and directed by John Stahl; "Call Me Mister," in Technicolor, to be produced by George Jessel.

In addition, Smith announced that Zanuck's "The Snow of Kilimanjaro," "Lydia Bailey," "The Black Rose" and "Unseen Harbor" will also be produced and scheduled for 1949 release.

Salute to Station WMGM

Fred E. Ahlert, president of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, will head a program of writer members of the Society in a salute to radio station WMGM this evening, among them: Howard Dietz, Harold Adamson, Morton Gould, Ferde Grofe, W. C. Handy, Alex Kramer, Jimmie McHugh, Richard Rodgers, Sigmund Romberg, Arthur Schwartz and Joan Whitney.

Studio Pickets Ask Conviction Reversal

WASHINGTON, Sept. 15.—Thirty-five persons convicted of violating an order restraining picketing around the studios of Columbia in Los Angeles on Nov. 16, 1946, today asked the Supreme Court to reverse their conviction.

Members of various unions in the Conference of Studio Unions, they declared that the restraining order was unconstitutional in that it was too sweeping and vague, that the trial court had issued improper instructions to the jury, that the restraining order had not been properly issued, and that they should not have been tried *en masse*. Justice Douglas early in the summer stayed jail sentences and fines for the pickets, pending their appeal.

SPG, E-L Start Pact Negotiations Today

Eastern Screen Publicists Guild will commence new contract negotiations today with Eagle-Lion. SPG is seeking a 25 per cent wage increase for E-L publicists, and "better security provisions." E-L is virtually the only distributor in New York which has agreed to "do business" with SPG, notwithstanding the union's refusal to comply with the voluntary non-Communist affidavit provisions of the Taft-Hartley Law.

U-I Work Stoppage

(Continued from page 1)

yesterday sent telegrams to the 425, including employees of U-I subsidiary Castle Films, urging their attendance at a meeting at Caravan Hall here this morning for a membership discussion of the company's refusal to negotiate a new contract covering wage increases and changes in working conditions. Moss hinted that "further action" will be discussed at the meeting.

This morning's work stoppage, Moss said, "is purely a move by H-63, totally unconnected with the Screen Publicists Guild or Screen Office and Professional Employees Guild." Holding that there were indications that SPG and SOPEG members intended to "horn in" on H-63's move, Moss declared: "We resent any action by these unions to imply this is any joint action." "IA's" H-63 is an AFL union, and SPG and SOPEG are CIO affiliates. Recent jurisdictional disputes here between H-63 and SOPEG have brought the two into strong competition for support among home office workers. SOPEG and SPG have not complied with the non-Communist affidavit provisions of the Taft-Hartley Law.

Warner's home office avoided an H-63 work stoppage earlier this week by agreeing to negotiate with it.

Film Dividends Drop

(Continued from page 1)

ment expert said. "They have been above 1947 in only one month—February—and then not enough to talk about." Feb., 1948, publicly reported cash dividends were \$226,000, compared with \$217,000 in Feb., 1947.

Dividends reported in the first seven months of 1948 totaled \$26,313,000, compared with \$30,968,000 for the same 1947 period. Commerce reported dividends of \$10,386,000 for the three months of May through July, 1948, compared with \$12,747,000 for the comparable period last year.

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY correspondents. Estimates omit admission tax.

INDIANAPOLIS

Fine weather and a lull in outdoor competition helped first-run grosses here this week. Three new attractions all are playing to better than average business. Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 14-16:

ABBOTT AND COSTELLO MEET FRANKENSTEIN (U-I) and **DAREDEVILS OF THE CLOUDS (Rep.)**—INDIANA (3,200). (44c-65c). Gross: \$18,000. (Average: \$12,000)

BEYOND GLORY (Para.) and **OPEN SECRET (E-L)**—KEITH'S (1,300). (44c-65c). On a moveover from the Indiana. Gross: \$3,500. (Average: \$4,000)

LARCENY (U-I) and **ARIZONA RANGER (RKO Radio)**—CIRCLE (2,800). (44c-65c). Gross: \$11,000. (Average: \$10,000)

MR. BLANDINGS BUILDS HIS DREAM HOUSE (SRO) and **FRIEDA (U-I)**—LOEW'S (2,450). (44c-65c). Gross: \$14,000. (Average: \$11,000)

TWO GUYS FROM TEXAS (WB) and **THE BIG PUNCH (WB)**—LYRIC (1,600). (44c-65c). On a moveover from the Circle. Gross: \$5,000. (Average: \$6,000)

MINNEAPOLIS

Theatre business held a shade above average as the post-vacation pickup continued. Estimated grosses for the week ending Sept. 16:

THE BABE RUTH STORY (AA-Mono.)—LYRIC (1,100). (50c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: \$5,000. (Average: \$5,000)

A FOREIGN AFFAIR (Para.)—CENTURY (1,500). (50c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: \$5,000. (Average: \$5,500)

FOUR FACES WEST (UA)—RKO PAN (1,500). (50c-70c). Gross: \$7,500. (Average: \$8,000)

GOOD SAM (RKO Radio)—RKO ORPHEUM (2,800). (50c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: \$12,500. (Average: \$14,000)

LIFE WITH FATHER (WB)—STATE (2,300). (50c-70c). Gross: \$12,000. (Average: \$13,500)

THE WALLS OF JERICHO (20th-Fox)—RADIO CITY (4,000). (50c-70c). Gross: \$16,500. (Average: \$16,000)

THE WOLF MAN (FC) and **THE HAIRY APE (FC reissues)**—GOPHER (1,000). (44c-50c). Gross: \$3,300. (Average: \$3,200)

Goldberg to Preside At WB Meeting Today

Harry Goldberg, in charge of advertising-publicity for Warner Theatres, will preside at a meeting at the company's home office today of Warner zone advertising men.

Present will be: J. Knox Strachan, Cleveland; John Hesse, New Haven; George Kelly, Newark; Jerry Atkin, Albany; Everett C. Callow, Philadelphia; Henry Burger, Pittsburgh; Frank LaFalce, Washington; Alfred D. Kvool, Milwaukee; Ben Wallerstein, Hollywood; Irving Windisch, New York.

Upstate W.B. Circuit Meeting Next Week

SYRACUSE, Sept. 15.—Managers of 26 Warner theatres in the Albany and Buffalo districts will convene at the Hotel Syracuse here next Tuesday for a discussion of problems affecting their houses and for an exchange of ideas. Charles A. Smakwitz, zone manager, will preside at the meeting which will also be attended by department heads from upstate offices.

WANTED
1,000 SHORT SUBJECTS

Single Reels

INTEREST—TRAVEL—SPORTS
MUSICALS—CARTOONS etc.

Up-To-Date — Good Quality

BRITISH NEWSREELS LTD.

147 Wardour Street • London, Eng.



She owes her "ripe old age" to him . . .

HOWEVER skillfully she might play her part, this young actress would still seem more girl than grandmother—save for the creative ingenuity of the make-up man.

By deft application of grease paint and putty, he has added years to her appearance...and conviction to her role.

This is but one instance of the magic at the make-up man's command. He does as much and more for film folk

who must be transformed to Jekyll, Cyrano; gnome, or Manchu.

When these characterizations reach audiences successfully, it is because the make-up man combines cosmetic artistry with full knowledge of his medium. And, in knowing films, he is aware of what is done to help his work by the versatile members of the Eastman motion picture family, famous films for more than fifty years.



EASTMAN KODAK COMPANY

ROCHESTER 4, N. Y.

J. E. BRULATOUR, INC., DISTRIBUTORS
FORT LEE • CHICAGO • HOLLYWOOD

NOW BOOKING

**A BIG DOUBLE FEATURE
MOTION PICTURE**

OF THE

World's Middleweight Championship

Between

TONY ZALE vs MARCEL CERDAN

WORLD CHAMPION

EUROPEAN CHAMPION

AND

A Heavyweight Elimination Bout

Between

GUS LESNEVICH & JERSEY JOE WALCOTT

TO BE HELD ON

SEPTEMBER 21, 1948

CONTACT YOUR LOCAL DISTRIBUTOR

Produced by

RINGSIDE PICTURES CORP.

723 SEVENTH AVENUE

- - - - NEW YORK 19, N. Y.

Circle 5-4240
Circle 6-3082

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General Mgr.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accur
Conc
an
Impartial

MR. ERIC J. JONES
MOTION PICTURE
AMERICA
20th Century-Fox

FILE
NOT
DOVE

FIRST
IN
FILM
NEWS

VOLUME 4. NO. 55

NEW YORK, U.S.A., FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1948

TEN CENTS

Arthur Appeal To High Court On Arbitration

Ask \$285,000 Damages for Clearances Set by AAA

WASHINGTON, Sept. 16. — A group of independent St. Louis exhibitors today asked the Supreme Court to rule that they are entitled to injunctive relief and \$285,000 damages for alleged injuries resulting from clearances set by the American Arbitration Association and observed by the distributors under the New York District Court decree.

The St. Louis District Court and the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that the New York District Court had not exceeded its authority in creating and vesting powers in the AAA, and had therefore dismissed the suit. The exhibitors contend that in so far as the New York decree was construed and used to bar an action for relief from anti-trust law violations, the decree was void.

The appeal was filed by the St. Louis Amusement Co., St. Louis Ambassador Theatre, Inc., Eden Theatre
(Continued on page 7)

F & M, Arthur Buy St. Louis Amusement

ST. LOUIS, Sept. 16. — Fanchon and Marco and the Harry Arthur interests have emerged as owners of St. Louis Amusement Company and were given permanent management of the Skouras theatre properties in St. Louis a few hours after completion of a \$6,000,000 deal in which Charles P. and George Skouras, as individuals, purchased the stock and retired the bonds of Ambassador Building Corp. and Missouri Theatre Building Corp.

A new Ambassador-Missouri Corp., headed by George Skouras, J. W.
(Continued on page 7)

Walbrook Bid for Injunction Rejected

WASHINGTON, Sept. 16. — Judge F. Dickinson Letts today denied the Walbrook Theatre's request for a temporary injunction to block an agreement between 20th Century-Fox and the Windsor Theatre, whereby 20th-Fox agreed to split its first neighborhood
(Continued on page 7)

Ainsworth Declines Wis.-Mich. Post

MILWAUKEE, Sept. 16. — William L. Ainsworth will not be a candidate for president of Independent Theatre Owners of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan, he has notified the board of directors in advance of the convention to be held in Milwaukee Oct. 13-15.

Ainsworth, who is the president of Allied States Association, served as president of the Wisconsin-Michigan group for eight years.

Arnold Brumm, North Milwaukee, is convention chairman; Harold Pearson, Schofields, Wis., and Harry Perlewitz, Milwaukee, are co-chairmen; Ervin Clumb is chairman of the publicity committee.

Speeches and round-table discussions on such exhibitor problems as Ascap, divorcement and operational problems are on the agenda.

Speakers will include A. W. Smith, Jr., sales manager for 20th Century-Fox, and Benjamin Berger, president of North Central Allied.

Variety Plans Five New Tents: McCraw

WASHINGTON, Sept. 16. — Variety Clubs International hopes to have five more tents set up within a year in this country and is "making very good progress" in establishing a tent in London, the 47 delegates to Variety's mid-year conference were informed here today.

William McCraw, executive director, told the opening session of the
(Continued on page 7)

Majors to Account For 100 in France

Washington, Sept. 16. — Major American distributors will account for "100 or so" of the 121 dubbed films to be allowed annually under the new French-American film agreement, with U. S. independents sending the balance, a Motion Picture Association of America official said here today.

Under the old Blum-Byrnes pact there was no limitation of product, but U. S. majors voluntarily limited themselves to 123 per year. The French claimed the independents swamped the market.

20th-Fox Program Set Through 1950

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 16. — Twentieth Century-Fox's production plans had been geared well in advance to meet the program of 30 features to be released in the next 12 months and its production program has been set up through 1950, delegates to the company's national sales conference were informed tonight by Joseph M. Schenck and Darryl F. Zanuck, hosts at the dinner which was held at the Cafe de Paris on the Westwood lot.

In a review of the studio backlog of completed productions, Zanuck pointed out that two are now shooting and four or five more are to be launched shortly. More than 20
(Continued on page 2)

Average Wage Boost of 10% Seen for Picture Salesmen

Wright to SIMPP: 'No Decree Talks'

Washington, Sept. 16. — "The only answer to the Society of Independent Picture Producers' protest of a possible settlement of the industry anti-trust case is that there are no consent decree negotiations going on now," Justice Department attorney Robert Wright said today.

The SIMPP protest to Attorney General Tom Clark was forwarded to Wright, who is handling the Paramount case.

CHICAGO, Sept. 16. — Differences on wage boosts between Colosseum of Motion Picture Salesmen and distributor negotiators, in session here, have been narrowed down to the point where mutual agreement on raises of approximately 10 per cent, or from \$6 to \$10 per week, seems assured, it is understood.

The belief is expressed here that the first national labor contract for the industry's approximately 1,000 salesmen will result from the negotiations which shifted to here from New York today.

It is further understood that both sides have tentatively agreed upon allowances of seven and one-half cents per mile for automobile expenses, representing an increase of two-and-one-half cents.

US and France Sign a Four Year Film Pact

Permits Remittances of \$3,625,000 Annually

WASHINGTON, Sept. 16. — The State Department announced today that a new French-American film agreement was signed in Paris today.

Under its terms, American film companies will be able to remit \$3,625,000 annually for four years to liquidate all funds blocked prior to June 30, 1947, and some current balances.

French films will get five instead of four weeks playing time in France out of every 13 weeks, and American films dubbed into French will be limited to 121 a year.

The French will continue to allocate all 35mm. raw stock and sound track, but made an exception of 24 films annually to the two-year dub-
(Continued on page 7)

Rivoli-Rockne Trust Suit Is Settled

CHICAGO, Sept. 16. — Dismissal of the Rivoli-Rockne \$900,000 anti-trust action against the majors and some circuits here will become effective tomorrow, when Judges Michael Igou and Philip Sullivan will abrogate the respective cases in U. S. District court. An out-of-court settlement has been approved by all defendants, allowing both houses owned by plaintiff Saul Meltzer the opportunity to compete for first- and subsequent-run playing time.

While no monetary settlement was made, substantial attorney fees were granted, it is understood. Aaron Stein represented the plaintiff.

Schermerhorn Head Of Reade Operations

Promotion of Nick Schermerhorn, district manager for Walter Reade Theatres in Southern New Jersey, to the newly-created position of general manager of theatre operations for the entire circuit, as well as the transfer-promotions of three city managers, was announced here yesterday by Walter Reade. All changes will become effective on Oct. 1.

Schermerhorn, who has been with
(Continued on page 7)

Personal Mention

WILLIAM F. RODGERS, M-G-M distribution vice-president, left here last night for Washington.

POLISH COUNT STANISLAS JACKOWSKY, copy runner for *MOTION PICTURE DAILY*, will leave New York tonight for Washington to be married, and will then go to Georgia for a honeymoon.

AL HORWITS, Universal-International Eastern publicity manager, returned to New York yesterday from Chicago.

SYD GROSS, Film Classics' assistant director of advertising-publicity, will start a one-week vacation today.

BEN WIRTH, Warner Service Corp. president, left New York last night for the Coast.

EZRA E. STERN, Los Angeles film attorney, is in New York on business.

8 Committee Heads For Pioneers Dinner

First meeting of the Motion Picture Pioneers dinner committee for 1948 was held here yesterday under the chairmanship of Hal Horne, and the following committee chairmen were appointed: Hal Hodes, general administration; Gilbert Josephson, hotel reservations and decorations; Jack Levin, dais and speakers; Marvin Kirsch, entertainment; Leon Leonidoff, stage director; Bert Sanford, induction of new members; Harry Takiff, finances; Jack Goldstein, publicity.

Joel Levy, Jr., Services

Funeral services will be held here Monday at Riverside Memorial Chapel for the late Joel Levy, Jr., son of Loew's out-of-town booker. Joel, Jr., was killed in action in the Philippines. Burial will be at Pine Lawn Cemetery, L. I.

Kalmenson Toastmaster

Ben Kalmenson, Warner sales vice-president, will be toastmaster at tonight's Warner Club banquet at the Vernon Hills Country Club, Tuckahoe, N. Y., concluding the club's annual golf tournament. About 160 players have registered.

Eastern Allied to Meet in Baltimore

Baltimore, Sept. 16.—Convention of Allied units in the Eastern region will be held here on Oct. 7.

Meyer Leventhal, Eastern regional vice-president of Allied, who makes his headquarters here, will be convention host.

Jameyson: Time Ripe For Top Showmen

KANSAS CITY, Sept. 16.—Aggressive showmanship to reap full advantage of the "exceptional business conditions" in this area, was urged today by Fox Midwest Theatres executive Howard Jameyson in an address before the Commonwealth Theatres convention here. Bank balances in this territory are at almost record level, and people having money are willing to spend it for good attractions, Jameyson said.

It was announced at the convention that Commonwealth will begin next week on construction of two new drive-ins, one at Sedalia and one at Columbia, Mo.

Tells House Group Of Trade Tactics

KANSAS CITY, Sept. 16.—R. W. Lohrenz, president of Kewanee Theatres, Kewanee, Ill., was in Kansas City today to file with a House of Representatives committee a statement on effects of competitive tactics by a circuit in that area.

Among exhibitor observers not testifying, were Ben Adams of Arkansas City, Kan.; C. E. Cook, Maryville, Mo.; Homer Strowig, Abilene, Kan.; R. R. Biechele, Kansas City, Kan.; Arthur Cole of the Paramount branch exchange, and attorneys of various film groups.

PCC Trustees Set 'Exhibitor Clinic'

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 16.—Trustees of the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners have voted to set aside one day of each quarterly meeting for an "exhibitor clinic" at which problems confronting the membership will be canvassed fully before a panel of experts on such matters as insurance, taxation and business procedure in general. The trustees, who will conclude their meetings tomorrow, re-elected Hugh Bruen as treasurer and Robert H. Poole as executive secretary.

Truman, Clark Cite TOA's 'Youth' Work

WASHINGTON, Sept. 16.—Both President Truman and Attorney General Tom Clark have expressed appreciation for the work of the Theatre Owners of America in promoting "Youth Month." Acknowledgement was made when TOA's A. Julian Brylawski took Olympic decathlon champion Bob Mathias, "Youth of the Year," to the White House.

TOA has spearheaded the drive, Clark said, and "showed the finest spirit of cooperation in the country."

7-Year Autry Deal Signed by Columbia

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 16.—Columbia has negotiated a new seven-year exclusive deal with Gene Autry Productions, calling for a series of six high-budget outdoor films each year, to be produced by Armand Schaefer and photographed in Columbia's new Monochrome process.

Strike Threatens U-I Home Office

Possibility of a strike in the near future by Universal-International's 425 home office "white collar" workers loomed large yesterday. Although new contract negotiations between the company and IATSE Home Office Employees Local No. H-63 were resumed following yesterday's hour-and-a-half work stoppage, it was announced following a union-management meeting that no agreement is in sight. "IA" international president Richard F. Walsh assigned international representative Joseph Basson to participate in yesterday's talks.

Sears Remains West To Set Hughes Deal

Originally expected back in New York yesterday, United Artists president Gradwell Sears has extended his Coast visit presumably until UA's three-picture transfer deal with Howard Hughes is completed. As announced by Sears two weeks ago in New York, the purpose of his trip to Hollywood was to finalize the pact under which UA relinquishes distribution rights to three films produced by Hughes with the latter in turn guaranteeing independent production of three others for UA. The three, "Mad Wednesday," "Vendetta" and "The Outlaw," are slated to be released through RKO Radio.

20th-Fox Program

(Continued from page 1)

scripts are now in the hands of writers, he added.

Schenck and Zanuck stressed the importance of the backlog in the company's selling and exploitation plans, enabling the company to meet its policy of releasing two features a month.

In stressing advertising and exploitation as one of the most important factors in selling motion pictures, Zanuck declared: "Newspapers, magazines and trade papers are the vital outlet for informing our patrons what to expect from the 20th Century-Fox banner."

'Snake Pit' to Open at Rivoli Here on Nov. 4

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 16.—Darryl F. Zanuck's "The Snake Pit" will have its world premiere on Nov. 4 at the Rivoli Theatre, New York, and will be handled on a "roadshow scale" except for admission prices, 20th Century-Fox general sales manager Andy W. Smith, Jr., announced here today at the company's national sales conference. Beginning with the first week in January the film will be played in five key cities a week.

Much of the afternoon session today was devoted to discussion of publicity and advertising plans for "Snake Pit," with Charles Schlaifer, advertising-publicity director, as chairman.

Rodgers Outlines Course

William F. Rodgers, sales vice-president, of M-G-M, at an initial session here yesterday at the Astor Hotel, outlined to the six candidates for the executive training course a complete program of activities which will be followed by the field men during their four-week stay in New York. The program includes a study of every phase of operation by M-G-M and affiliated companies.

Hold 'Twist' Temporarily

J. Arthur Rank's "Oliver Twist," imported by Eagle-Lion for U. S. showing, will be withheld from U. S. theatres only temporarily, according to present plans, it was indicated here yesterday by Robert Benjamin, president of the U. S. Rank Organization. The film has been criticized in some quarters because of the controversial depiction of one of its characters.

Sues UA on 5-Film Deal

Auerbach Film Enterprises, Ltd., filed suit in U. S. District Court here yesterday against United Artists, seeking an accounting of profits in connection with a five-picture European distribution deal. UA, Auerbach charges, has not reported earnings on the five during the last three years. Auerbach says he owns the pictures.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
GARY COOPER • ANN SHERIDAN
in **LEO MCCAREY'S**
"GOOD SAM"
A Rainbow Productions, Inc. Picture
Released by RKO Radio Pictures
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

Barbara Stanwyck
Burt Lancaster
in
'SORRY, WRONG NUMBER'
A Paramount Release
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

ROSALIND RUSSELL
in
"THE VELVET TOUCH"
A **FREDERICK BRISSON** PRODUCTION
Released through **RKO**
RIVOLI B'way & 49th St.

TYRONE POWER, ANNE BAXTER
"THE LUCK OF THE IRISH"
A 20th Century-Fox Picture
ON VARIETY STAGE
Ed Sullivan & Harvest Moon Ball Winners
Joe Howard - Al Bernie - Illinois Jacquet
On Ice Stage—"SYMPHONETTE on ICE"
Starring **ARNOLD SHODA**
ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.



WHAT
EVERY
WOMAN
WANTS
TO
SEE



Arnold Moss
plays the Colonel



Luther Adler
plays Dancaire



Victor Jory
plays Garcia



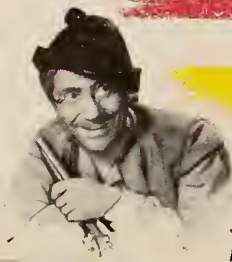
Ron Randell
plays Andres



Margaret Wycherly
plays the Old Crone



Bernard Nedell
plays Pablo



Joseph Buloff
plays Remendado



In the tradition
WHAT

Rita HAYWORTH The Loves

WITH

RON RANDELL · VICTOR JORY · LUTHER ADLER

Screenplay by Helen Deutsch · Based upon

Directed and Produced by

NOT THE
BUT A DRAMATIC VERSION



of the greatest pictures...Columbia Pictures presents
EVERY WOMAN WANTS TO SEE...

TH * FORD
of Carmen

Arnold Moss · Joseph Buloff · Margaret Wycherly

story of "Carmen" by Prosper Merimee

CHARLES VIDOR

COLOR BY

TECHNICOLOR

OPERA

OF THE STORY OF CARMEN

Everybody Loves The Loves of Carmen!

THE COLUMNISTS

"Hayworth is Toreadorable."

—WALTER WINCHELL

"Rita has never given such a performance."—LOUELLA PARSONS

"Rita is wildcat, gypsy, dancer and beauty all rolled into one feminine package. Best 'Carmen' ever on screen." —HEDDA HOPPER

"Hayworth is greatest Carmen of them all. Wow!"

—ERSKINE JOHNSON

"Male members of audience wound up in completely dazed condition."

—SHEILA GRAHAM

"Projects what makes wolves howl."

—LOUIS SOBOL

THE TRADE PAPERS

"Reunited for first time since GILDA, Hayworth and Ford emerge again a pair of lovers whose impact at box-office should be foregone conclusion."

—M. P. DAILY

"Bold, lusty. Hayworth's best. Profits should hit upper brackets."

—VARIETY

"Hayworth's portrayal is easily most inflammable of lot. Action abounds in passionate embraces, violent fights, offhanded murders."

—M. P. HERALD

"Has names and angles to get the dough."

—THE EXHIBITOR

"Looks like a potential box-office record smasher."

—SHOWMEN'S T. R.

"Picture is assured long and prosperous exhibition career."

—BOXOFFICE

THE NEWSPAPERS

"Rita bewitching! Best performance she has ever given."

—N. Y. DAILY NEWS

"Stormy movie, full of banditry, chases, fights and exceedingly ardent love-making."

—N. Y. WORLD-TELEGRAM

"Rita is terrific . . . irresistible. Glenn Ford is excellent . . . It will smash records."

—N. Y. DAILY MIRROR

"Spectacular . . . Columbia has not stinted with its production."

—N. Y. HERALD TRIBUNE

"Hayworth's best to date. Lusty, colorful entertainment, full of ridin', fightin' and shootin'."

—N. Y. JOURNAL-AMERICAN

"Certainly going to pour plenty of cash into box-offices."

—N. Y. POST

Everybody Loves The Loves of Carmen!



US-French Pact Is Signed

(Continued from page 1)

bing rules. They also relaxed restrictions on the number of theatres where non-dubbed films can play at any one time.

Division of payments on amounts accruing to companies before June 30, 1947, will be made on the basis of the allocation previously approved by the French government, but division of payments on the period after June 30, 1947, will be on the basis of "the gross billings accruing to distributors of American films, as determined by a certified public accountant acceptable to the French government and to the motion picture companies."

List Ways to Use Francs

Amounts received by film companies in francs which may not be transferred may be spent in a wide variety of ways, including construction of new studios and co-production of films in France when approved by the National Film Center. "Approval will not be unreasonably withheld," the agreement specifies. The blocked francs can be used also to purchase books, plays and other works, to buy distribution rights for French films, and make investments in non-film firms, real estate, and securities. Income on these investments will be freely transferable.

Main terms of the agreement, which replaced the Blum-Byrnes accord which lapsed May 28, have been discussed in trade circles for several weeks. All arrangements are retroactive to July 1, 1948.

The agreement was signed by French Foreign Minister Robert Schuman, Minister of Industry and Commerce Robert LaCoste, and U. S. Ambassador Jefferson Caffery.

Key Provisions Disclosed

Here are the key provisions of the agreement as announced by the State Department:

Remittances: The French government will allow annual transfer of \$3,625,000 during each year of the four-year period beginning July 1, 1948. This will be composed of two parts. Of the total, \$2,438,205 each year will represent liquidation of the balance of the \$11,715,000 which the French government previously agreed to transfer on receipts up to June 30, 1947. The entire remainder, or \$9,752,820, will be transferred at the end of the four years. Transfer of these receipts is being made on the basis of 119.30 francs to the dollar. The balance of the annual remittance, or \$1,186,795, will be on account of receipts accruing after July 1, 1947, and will be made on the basis of exchange rates prevailing at the time the transfer takes place. There can be no renegotiation on the terms for liquidation of the balances accrued before June 30, 1947.

Remittances will be transferred in four equal installments, with the first transfer taking place Sept. 30, 1948. However, \$609,551, first installment of the receipts accrued prior to June 30, 1947, was to have been paid on the signing of the accord.

Among uses to which blocked francs can be put are: all distribution expenses and salaries in France, including dubbing expenses, advertising, and subtitling, expenses "incident to co-production" in France of films approved by the Film Center with revenue accruing from this production divided between U. S. and French interests on a percentage basis identical to that approved for the financing and revenue realized outside France freely disposable abroad by the U. S. company.

Ban Theatre, Studio Buying

Purchase of any right to books, plays, and other literary or musical properties, and purchase of film patents, provided that royalties will be paid in the currency of the nation in which the royalties accrue; purchase of rights to motion pictures produced in France for distribution or sale throughout the world, excepting the franc zone, subject to the approval of the Centre National and the Office Des Changes; purchase of goods and materials for export,

contributions to French charities, and other purposes specifically authorized by the Office Des Changes; and subject to existing exchange regulations purchase of long-term securities issued by the state or public bodies or industries not connected with the motion picture industry, investment in French industrial or commercial enterprises not connected with the film industries, and purchase, construction, renovation and leasing of developed or undeveloped real estate. No theatres or laboratories can be built or acquired, no existing studios can be acquired, but new studios can be built. Purchases of securities and investments in film enterprises can be made with special permission of the National Film Center. Income accruing from all investments will be transferable.

Screen Quota: The French government increases to five weeks per quarter the required showing of French films. This will be figured on the basis of 10 weeks out of every 26 from now on.

Distribution Quota: "Taking into account the outlay of foreign exchange which the exhibition of foreign films in France involves and the condition of the French balance of payments," there will be a limit of 121 dubbed feature-length U. S. films allowed each year in France, and a limit of 65 dubbed features originating in other foreign countries. This quota can be raised if there is a product shortage.

Dubbing: There will be an exception up to 25 U. S. features a year for the requirement that there may not be a delay of more than two years between the date of the first public presentation of a film in its country of origin and the date of the dubbing authorization. This rule will not apply to shorts.

Restricted to 15 Runs

15-Situations Restriction: As of July 1, films released in both original and dubbed versions may be shown in five theatres in the Department of the Seine and in 10 theatres in the other departments. Films released exclusively in the original version may be exhibited in 10 theatres in the Seine Department and 20 theatres in other departments.

Raw Stock: Positive and negative 35 mm. raw stock and sound track will be allocated, by the National Film Center, with emphasis on the needs of the domestic industry.

The statement accompanying the new pact said discussions were carried on in the light of France's financial and economic problems but "with due regard for the relevant provisions of the international agreements to which both governments are parties." It declared that the pact represented "a mutually satisfactory understanding with respect to the financial problems arising from the distribution and exhibition of American films in the French union."

Arthur Appeal

(Continued from page 1)

Co., St. Louis Missouri Theatre, Inc., Fanchon and Marco Service Corp., James H. Arthur, David G. Arthur, Edward B. Arthur, Thomas G. Arthur, Harry C. Arthur, and Edward I. Murphy. Defendants are Paramount, RKO, 20th Century-Fox, Warners, AAA, and Harold D. Connor, the AAA's St. Louis representative.

The exhibitors charge that the defendants are engaged in a conspiracy in restraint of trade, as a part of which they agreed to refuse to sell pictures to petitioners except on terms and conditions established by the AAA, claiming that this concerted refusal is made legal by the 1940 consent decree. They declare that the AAA's St. Louis office reduced clearance against the St. Louis Amusement Co. in favor of the Apollo Theatre and has pending another clearance request in favor of the Princess Theatre against the Arthurs' interests.

Arthur and Fanchon and Marco had opposed arbitration proceedings unsuccessfully under the system set up by the old consent decree.

St. Louis Deal

(Continued from page 1)

White and Clarence M. Turley, will run the Ambassador and Missouri properties, the former one of the city's largest office buildings, as a realty enterprise.

It transferred Ambassador Building's 52 per cent interest in St. Louis Amusement Co., with 25-year leases on the first-run Ambassador and Missouri theatres, to Fanchon and Marco Service Corp. St. Louis Amusement operates 28 neighborhood theatres. Edward Arthur will be its president.

The deal was strictly according to forecast, with Harry Arthur cooperating in the Skouras purchases, and the management end going back to Fanchon and Marco. No immediate changes are expected in theatre operation, which has been conducted by Fanchon and Marco.

Variety Plans

(Continued from page 1)

three-day meeting he had "high hopes" for re-establishing tents in Kansas City and Denver and of establishing new ones in Seattle, Portland and New Orleans. Variety hopes to have a tent in each exchange center ultimately, he said. The meeting also discussed the possibility of setting up a tent in New York City, long a stumbling block to the organization.

Progress on the London tent was reported in a cable from second assistant international chief barker C. J. Latta, Warner manager in London.

Top industry officials joined the Variety delegates tonight at a dinner in honor of chief barker Robert O'Donnell.

Schermerhorn Head

(Continued from page 1)

the Reade organization for 18 years, in Saratoga Springs and Kingston, N. Y., before moving to Asbury Park for the district managership, will be directly responsible to Reade for general supervision of management, operation and maintenance for all theatres in seven New Jersey and one New York State communities. Schermerhorn's district managership will be left vacant temporarily.

Guy Hevia, city manager for the three Reade theatres in Morristown, N. J., was transferred to Asbury Park as city manager over the six theatres there; Ralph Lanterman, city manager for the two theatres in Long Branch, N. J., replaces Hevia at Morristown, and John Balzer, manager of the Reade Strand in Freehold, N. J., takes over as Long Branch city manager. A replacement for Balzer will be named shortly.

Walbrook Bid

(Continued from page 1)

run product between the two Baltimore houses.

The agreement was reached in an out-of-court settlement of the Windsor's treble-damage suit against 20th-Fox and other distributors for favoring the Walbrook. The Walbrook then claimed the agreement broke a contract it had with 20th-Fox to get the same film availability as the Durkee-owned Ambassador.

Judge Letts said the Walbrook had not proved its case for a temporary injunction, and ordered 20th's counsel, John Caskey, to file proposed findings of fact "with reasonable diligence."



Charles R. Gilmour,
president,
Gibraltar Enterprises, Inc.,
Denver, Colorado, says:

"I KNOW THAT MY BUSINESS ISN'T JUST A SIDE ISSUE WITH ALTEC"

What makes it easy for me to recommend Altec to my friends in show business is that I know I get the full-time energy and engineering resources of that organization for our theatres; I know that my business isn't just a part-time operation or a side issue with Altec. That means a good deal in these times when show business has to meet an intensified competition for the people we exhibitors count on to swell our theatre grosses. What's

more, the radio and records have made people a lot more discriminating about the sound they hear. We know that the Altec man who comes to our theatres, as well as the research engineers in the Altec laboratories, are working and planning for us exhibitors all of the time, and it's a very comforting thought."

Altec Service, known for its service "over and above the contract" is a vital ingredient of your theatre's ability to meet successfully the competition of other forms of entertainment. An Altec Service contract is the soundest long term investment an exhibitor can make today.

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THE SERVICE ORGANIZATION OF THE MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

DAY AFTER DAY
THE HEADLINES SAY:

*Paramount Helps Set Records
For American Exhibitors*

TODAY
THE HEADLINES SAY:

*American Exhibitors Help
Set Record For Paramount*

AS

17,838 THEATRES PARTICIPATING IN Paramount Week



SET ALL-TIME INDUSTRY HIGH!

Thank you, Paramount customers, for making possible this major booking achievement in motion picture history. In 1947 our trademark was on 17,009 screens during PARAMOUNT WEEK—a record up to that time. Now this figure has been exceeded by PARAMOUNT WEEK of 1948.

We congratulate you on the effective showmanship you put behind our special PARAMOUNT WEEK attraction, "Beyond Glory" starring Alan Ladd and Donna Reed which, in big and small situations, has now overwhelmingly established itself as the leading Ladd grosser in the last two years.

The resounding success of PARAMOUNT WEEK is happy evidence of our mutual friendship and esteem. Now we promise that your record-setting vote of confidence will be answered with product of unusual excellence for the balance of the year. Typical is "Sorry, Wrong Number" which at its premiere engagement is topping every attraction but one since the N. Y. Paramount opened its doors in 1926.

In addition, telegrams from key cities—following sneak previews of "Miss Tatlock's Millions"—indicate that, on the evidence of audience reaction, this will be one of the strongest releases this company has ever scheduled for Thanksgiving business.

Again to all our friends who participated in PARAMOUNT WEEK, we repeat our appreciation and thanks.

—PARAMOUNT PICTURES

Accurate
Concise
and
Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

FIRST
IN
FILM
NEWS

64. NO. 56

NEW YORK, U. S. A., MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1948

TEN CENTS

U. S. Accuses Ticket Makers Of Conspiracy

33 Manufacturers Are Named by the F. T. C.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 17.—Federal Trade Commission has ordered six trade association and 33 manufacturers of theatre tickets and other types of tickets and coupons to cease and desist from what it describes as an unlawful combination to fix prices and eliminate competition in their industry. The case against the ticket manufacturers has been in Government files for a long time.

The Commission's findings said that the manufacturers agreed upon identical and uniform prices, discounts, sur-

(Continued on page 4)

Court Bars Book Audits

CHICAGO, Sept. 19.—A declaration which may set a precedent throughout the country involving anti-trust cases and the right of distributors to examine the books of exhibitors was made on Friday by Judge William Campbell in U. S. District Court here. Judge Campbell overruled eight distributing companies which had sued the Alger Theatre Circuit of Illinois on the grounds of fraudulent percentage returns, stating that they were not entitled to audit the circuit's books until they could produce a valid contract that does not violate anti-trust laws.

City Investing Buys 25% of Lopert Films

City Investing Co., real estate and theatre owning corporation here, will become a 25 per cent stockholder in Lopert Films, Inc.

Lopert, in addition to distributing foreign films in the U. S., has theatre interests in New York, Washington, Buffalo and Detroit. City Investing

(Continued on page 4)

Scully to Set U-I Releases for Six Months at 4 Meets

With sufficient pictures completed to enable the company to set releasing plans for the next six months, Universal-International will launch a "U-I Unity Sales Drive" with four regional sales meetings dedicated to the drive, starting in New York Friday, William A. Scully, U-I sales vice-president announced here at the weekend.

The four regional meetings to be held in New York, Cincinnati, Chicago and San Francisco, in addition to being devoted to the launching of the drive, will also serve for the formulation of the company's sales policies for 1948-49.

The "Unity Drive" is inspired by the necessity of unity in the industry, according to Scully. He said, "The

(Continued on page 4)

Isley Succeeds Cole As Texas Allied Head

DALLAS, Sept. 19.—Phil Isley of Isley Theatres was elected president of Allied Theatre Owners of Texas at a special meeting of the directors called to act on the resignation of president Col. H. A. Cole.

In office since 1921 and a stalwart in national Allied, Cole said he has begun to feel the burden of his labors and desires to divest himself of the responsibilities of office and to assure the life of the unit by new men taking over now.

Board members voted also to defer the ATO fall convention to spring because of the closeness of dates of Allied's national meet and that of Texas.

Clear Legislative Picture for 1949

WASHINGTON, Sept. 19.—Forty-four state legislatures have regular sessions scheduled next year, and the other four may be called into special sessions, according to Jack Bryson, legislative representative of the Motion Picture Association of America.

Bryson said that so far, "there hasn't been even an intimation" of any legislation hostile to the industry, but added that it is still early to be sure. There's certainly no reason for the industry to let down its guard in any area, Bryson stated.

The four legislatures which do not have regular sessions scheduled are Kentucky, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Virginia. Arizona is the only state legislature in session now, and a special Virginia session is the only one on the horizon during the rest of this year, Bryson said.

Dutch Increase U. S. Films' Playing Time

WASHINGTON, Sept. 19.—The Commerce Department has reported that the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs has announced that playing time of U. S. films will be increased from a maximum of 32 weeks to a maximum of 40 weeks.

Commerce film chief Nathan D. Golden said no late work has been received as to whether the change has already been made official.

Golden said the Ministry announced that the Nederlandsche Bioscoop Bond, Netherlands film industry association, will abolish its measure restricting playing time of U. S. film to 32 weeks a year.

Reject US Bid for List Of 'Legal' Ownerships

The five major distributors have refused to respond to a Government inquiry into all of their theatres which, the companies maintain, still are in their legal possession, in the light of the U. S. Supreme Court's opinion in the Paramount, et al, anti-trust case.

This was disclosed at the weekend following the completion of the filing of defendants' answers to Department

of Justice interrogatories on numerous aspects of their theatre interests.

The Government had asked for a list of each theatre acquisition claimed to be "the fortuitous result of bankruptcy or an innocent investment, unrelated to any restraint or monopolistic practice." The bid for information was turned down on the grounds that it was unfair and unreasonable.

NLRB Orders Election In IA-Sopeg Tilt

1st Vote Sept. 28 at UA; Intervenor Eliminated

A "white collarite" shop election which is expected to strongly influence the future composition of film industry home office labor-management relations here has been set for Sept. 28 at United Artists by the National Labor Relations Board in Washington. NLRB ordered the election at the weekend as it denied an intervenor's appeal for an overruling of New York regional NLRB director Charles T. Douds' recent decision in favor of an election.

The Washington decision sustains Douds' denial of a place on the ballot to UA employee Cecilia Schuman, the intervenor who, Douds ruled, was acting in behalf of Screen Office and Pro-

(Continued on page 4)

Rep. Schedule For 6 Months

A six months' schedule of Republic releases, from Oct. 1 to April 1, was announced here at the weekend by distribution vice-president James R. Grainger, who said it was the first time in the company's history that it has had releases so far in advance. Grainger said 90 per cent of the pictures are completed.

Beginning in November, he said, one production will be released month-

(Continued on page 4)

Variety to Operate Rogers Sanatorium

WASHINGTON, Sept. 19.—Variety Clubs International on Friday decided to take over operation of the Will Rogers Memorial Hospital.

International chief Barker Robert O'Donnell is to name a committee of

(Continued on page 4)

"MR. BLANDINGS builds his dream house"



MOTION PICTURE HERALD
BOX OFFICE CHAMPION
IN AUGUST

Personal Mention

JOSEPH BERNHARD, Film Classics' president, will leave here by plane today for Hollywood.

LEON J. BAMBERGER, RKO Radio sales promotion manager, will attend the TOA convention in Chicago Sept. 24-25; the convention of the MPTO of St. Louis, Eastern Missouri and Southern Illinois on Sept. 27, and the K-MTA convention in Kansas City Sept. 28-29. He will address the latter two.

DAVID PALFREYMAN, Motion Picture Association of America exhibitor liaison, is expected back at his desk this week after an operation for bursitis. He went to the hospital Wednesday upon his return to Washington from the Ohio Allied convention.

SALLY RUTH LEVINE, daughter of **HERMAN LEVINE** and **MRS. LEVINE**, was married yesterday to **ERNEST PINTER** in the Park Central Hotel, New York. The bride's father is a Warner executive in Philadelphia.

GEORGE SIDNEY, who has been vacationing in the East with his wife, dramatic coach **LILLIAN BURNS**, is en route to Hollywood from New York to direct MGM's "Vespers in Vienna."

NAT LAX, United Artists advertising production manager here, and **JACK KERNESS** of Columbia have left Annapolis for a cruise on Chesapeake Bay.

CHARLES MAYER, Motion Picture Export Association managing director in Japan and Korea, is due here today from Tokyo.

PAUL BRODER, Realart president, and **MRS. BRODER** have become parents of their second child, a son, born last Monday in Detroit.

WILLIAM HOWARD, RKO Theatres assistant general manager, will be in Chicago today from New York.

MILTON SPERLING, president of United States Pictures, is at the Waldorf-Astoria here from California.

SRO Lists Three for Early '49 Release

Selznick Releasing Organization plans to release three pictures in the first quarter of 1949, it was announced here Friday by **Milton S. Kusell**, sales vice-president, at the final session of a divisional sales meeting held in the home office.

Scheduled are: "Portrait of Jennie," David O. Selznick production co-starring **Jennifer Jones** and **Joseph Cotten**; "The Third Man," co-starring **Joseph Cotten** and **Valli**, to be the first picture produced in Europe under a joint agreement by Selznick and **Sir Alexander Korda**; and an untitled picture starring **Shirley Temple**.

Tradewise . . .

By **SHERWIN KANE**

THERE are many similarities between the New York and Minneapolis Ascap decisions despite the fact that the two courts dealt with a separate set of circumstances and applied different tests of law. Nevertheless, both reach the same conclusions.

Judge **Leibell** in the New York case found Ascap's theatre licensing methods to be in violation of the anti-trust laws, cited its power to arbitrarily exact exorbitant fees from exhibitors (as Ascap proposed to do in August, 1947) and suggested that copyright owners, in the future, license both the recording and performing rights simultaneously to producers. Judge **Leibell** was dealing with a complaint by independent exhibitors that Ascap is a monopoly in violation of the anti-trust laws. He agreed.

In Minneapolis Federal Court, Judge **Nordbye** had before him a case brought by copyright owners who were members of Ascap against independent exhibitors who had refused to obtain Ascap licenses or otherwise pay for the copyrighted music in the films exhibited in their theatres.

Judge **Nordbye** denied the plaintiff copyright owners the right to collect from the exhibitor defendants and denied plaintiffs an injunction to restrain the exhibitors from further unlicensed use of their music. In so doing, he agreed with Judge **Leibell** that Ascap is in violation of the anti-trust laws, but relied for his decision upon the finding that Ascap and its members had illegally extended their copyright monopoly.

Judge **Nordbye** took note, too, of Ascap's power to exact exorbitant fees of exhibitors and he, too, observed that "undoubtedly, the simplest plan for the copyright owners belonging to Ascap would be for them to issue both synchronization rights and performance rights to the producers."

Both courts agreed that if that were done the performance right fee paid by the producer would very likely be passed along to the exhibitor, but that such a licensing method, at least, would be legal.

If the New York and Minneapolis decisions are sustained, it is obvious that Ascap cannot collect from theatres, nor can in-

dividual copyright owners so long as they are members of Ascap. The only possible exception would be the employment of an individual licensing method, a license for the music in each picture. That would take some doing, on the part of Ascap and producers, as well as exhibitors. Most authorities presently are agreed that if it is not impossible, it is impractical.

However, neither decision takes away from the copyright owner his right to collect for a public performance of his music for profit. The two decisions merely impose upon the copyright owner the obligation to devise a legal method of collecting the performance fee in place of the collection method found to be illegal. It is Ascap, not the copyright, which has been found to be outside the law.

Therefore, the conclusion is inescapable that while exhibitors may be through paying Ascap they are not done with paying for music on film. The two courts have pointed out the logical way for copyright owners to collect. It so happens that the suggested method has for long been advocated by Allied States, which says it is willing to take its chances on how much producers-distributors will charge for music performing rights in their film "because you can bargain with distributors, but not with Ascap."

That means, of course, the bargaining will be done over films, not music charges. The exhibitor may never know how much he is paying for the music in his film even if it happens to be 10 times what he formerly paid Ascap. The theory, apparently, is what he doesn't know won't hurt him.

Meanwhile, there has been introduced a new principle in the application of copyright law to the industry. Once it was conceded that if you used a copyrighted article without a license, you had infringed and were subject to the drastic penalties therefor. Now it appears that unless the copyright owner offers a "legal" license you are free to use his work without payment and without fear of penalties.

This principle of law, extended to distribution contracts, raises another line of questions. It suggests need for re-examination of Ascap clauses.

Newsreel Parade

CLASHES in Berlin and the burial of **Benes** mark current newsreel highlights. Other events include "Mrs. America," "Youth of the Year," sports and fashions. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 75—A marked man talks: interview with **Mikhail Samarin**. East-West clash turns Berlin into city of turmoil. President **Truman** sets "Youth of the Year." Miss **Truman** is first-voter's drive. **Margaret Chase Smith** wins Senate election. Ground broken for UN capital in New York. Oil-tank explosion. "Mrs. America." Football. Motorcycle hill climb.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 205—Ground broken for UN home in New York. Turmoil in Berlin. Progress rides the rails. Woman wins Senate seat. "Mrs. America of '48." Fire disaster. "Youth of the Year." Iron horse jockey.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 8—New 20th Century Limited. Election in Maine. Campaign for CARE packages. Ground broken for UN capital. "Youth of the Year." Crisis in Berlin. Funeral of **Benes**.

UNIVERSAL NEWS, No. 179—Religion: 200,000 pay homage to Pope. News in brief: "Youth of the Year"; Pennsylvania Railroad award; 20th Century Limited. Fire in Amsterdam. Gay Nineties festival. "Mrs. America." Football.

WARNER PATHE NEWS, No. 10—**Benes** dies. Crisis in Berlin. Fall fashions. Boxing, football. Great Americans: **Samuel Adams**.

Chi. South Side Run By Para. Challenged

CHICAGO, Sept. 19.—Subsequent run bidding over Paramount's "A Foreign Affair," raised new litigation under the Jackson Park decree Friday in Judge **Michael J. Igoe's** U. S. District Court. The legal squabble arose when **Thomas McConnell**, Jackson Park attorney, contended that the company's selling of "Affair" to the **Balaban and Katz Tivoli** for an exclusive South Side showing on Sept. 24 constituted contempt of court.

McConnell asserted that no South Side theatre is entitled to an exclusive run as long as a competing theatre meets the bid. All defendant distributors, he said, have thus far offered films strictly on a non-exclusive run basis, but Paramount for the first time offered this film for bidding on either a non-exclusive or exclusive run basis.

In this case, the **Tivoli** won the bid for 25 per cent guarantee, while the **Jackson Park** offered to pay 35 per cent. Paramount, represented by attorney **Alfred Teton**, in turn, filed a petition upholding the **Tivoli's** right to play the film exclusively so long as the distributor chooses to sell it that way.

Hearings on the issue will be held Tuesday in Judge **Igoe's** court.

Lober Will Assist Hummel in Europe

Lou Lober, who has been with **Loew's International** for 20 years, will join **Warner's** European staff on Oct. 1. He will leave on Oct. 5 for Paris to become assistant to **Joseph Hummel**, **Warner International** vice-president in charge of Europe, Near East, North Africa and Middle East, in a supervisory capacity.

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—Film Daily

HIS SCAR

marked
them
BOTH!!



"Suspense melodrama
will find favor with
fans!"

—DAILY VARIETY

"Suspenseful. Marquee
garnish afforded by the
Henreid-Bennett
combo!"

—VARIETY

"Easily exploitable . . .
mass appeal!"

—M. P. DAILY

"Well-acted, fast-paced
. . . to please the major-
ity of customers!"

—M. P. HERALD

"Superb suspense offer-
ing...strong box office!"

—THE INDEPENDENT

"Payoff handsomely at
box office!"

—HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

"Strong! Henreid-Joan
Bennett name draws!"

—SHOWMEN'S
TRADE REVIEW

FLASH!

BROKE 6-YEAR
HOUSE RECORD AT
ASTOR THEATRE,
READING, PA.

PAUL HENREID · JOAN BENNETT
"HOLLOW TRIUMPH"

The Story of a Man Who Murdered Himself and Lived to Retaliate!!



— EDWARD FRANK — LEBEL BROOKS — JOHN QUALPH — MARIE PACE — HERBERT RUDLEY

Directed by Paul Henreid. Screenplay by David Selby.

Produced by David Selby. Released by United Artists.

Short Subject

"10,000 Kids and a Cop"

(Abbott-Costello)

Hollywood, Sept. 19—Bud Abbott, Lou Costello, William Bendix, James Stewart and Brenda Joyce are the highly exploitable principals in this completely commendable short subject showing the constructive approach toward prevention of juvenile delinquency as exemplified in the establishment and operation of the Lou Costello, Jr., Youth Foundation in Los Angeles. In 12 tight minutes the subject, directed by Charles Barton, relates the experience of Bendix, as the policeman on the beat, in visiting the Foundation and discovering the ruffianly juveniles who used to give him trouble now engaged in wholesome sports and activities furnished them gratis and under successful self-supervision. Abbott and Costello contribute two humorous interludes to punctuate the otherwise mainly informative and stimulating script, which includes a direct address to civic bodies by Bendix on the value of such youth installations to a community. Stewart sounds a similar note in an introductory message. The subject rates exhibition in every city and town, strictly on its merit, and appears guaranteed by its name power to more than earn its way.

The picture is available to exhibitors without cost; they can, however, make a donation of any amount to the Costello Foundation.

NLRB Sets Election

(Continued from page 1)

Professional Employees Guild (CIO) in seeking to have her name included.

Therefore, on Sept. 28, in the first test, UA's 150 "collarites" will vote on whether they want to be represented by AFL's IATSE Motion Picture Home Office Employees Local No. H-63, or whether they want no union representation.

Blumberg, Walsh Enter Talks To Avert Strike at U-I

Nate Blumberg and John O'Connor, Universal-International president and vice-president, respectively, will confer at IATSE headquarters here today with "IA" international president Richard F. Walsh, "IA" Local No. H-63 business agent Russell Moss, and others from the union, in an effort to break a contract negotiations deadlock which threatens a strike by U-I's 425 home office "white collar" workers.

Scully to Set

(Continued from page 1)

future successful course of operation in the industry lies in mutual cooperation between distributors and exhibitors to help insure the continuance of the present high weekly attendance level at the nation's theatres."

RKO to Show Fight Film

Starting Wednesday RKO theatres throughout Metropolitan New York will show the official pictures of the Tony Zale-Marcel Cerdan and Gus Lesnevich-Jersey Joe Walcott bouts which will be held in Jersey City's Roosevelt Stadium tomorrow night.

Variety

(Continued from page 1)

exhibitor members of Variety to work jointly with the sales managers group on working out fund-raising and operating plans. Variety hopes to take over around the first of the year.

O'Donnell said Variety seeks to raise between \$200,000 and \$250,000 in each of the first five years of its operation of the hospital, in order to build up a fund to keep the sanatorium operating another five years if hard times should come. Annual operating costs are estimated at \$175,000.

Present Award to Marshall

Secretary of State George C. Marshall last night received Variety's 1947 Humanitarian Award "for his measureless service rendered in behalf of world-wide peace."

Gen. Marshall, ninth recipient of the annual award, received his silver plaque, scroll and \$1,000 check from O'Donnell in an impressive ceremony climaxing the club's three-day conference.

Presentation was made at a dinner attended by approximately 600 guests, including top industry, military, diplomatic, and other Government officials. Among those lauding the Secretary of State at the dinner were O'Donnell, Supreme Court Justice Robert H. Jackson, B. M. McKelway, editor of *The Washington Star*, and Albert Kennedy Rowswell, chairman of Variety's award committee.

In a telegram which explained that his absence from the Capital kept him from the dinner, President Truman congratulated Secretary Marshall as recipient of the award and lauded Variety's charitable activities.

Industry leaders on the guest list included Barney Balaban, Spyros P. Skouras, William White, George Skouras, Charles Reagan, Leonard Goldenson, William F. Rodgers, Abe Montague, Ben Kalmenson, Ned E. Depinet, Nate J. Blumberg, George F. Dembow, Herman Robbins, Si Fabian, Jay Emanuel, Tom Connors, George Schaefer, James R. Grainger, Max Cohen, S. Barret McCormick, J. Robert Rubin, Andy W. Smith, Joseph Bernhard, Earl Sweigert, Arthur Mayer, and Fred Schwartz.

Congressmen Invited to Dais

Among those invited to the dais, in addition to the above, were: Admiral Louis Denfield, Gen. Raymond S. McLain, Senators Elbert D. Thomas, J. Howard McGrath, Joseph C. O'Mahoney, and Herbert R. O'Connor, Gen. Jacob L. Devers, and Senate Secretary Carl A. Loeffler.

Carter T. Barron, Eastern division manager of Loew's, and Commerce Film Chief Nathan D. Golden were in active charge of the event.

New England Variety Tent To Receive Top Citation

Boston, Sept. 19.—Variety Clubs' highest award, the Charity Citation, will be presented to the Variety Club of New England, Tent No. 23, tomorrow evening at the local club's annual banquet at the Hotel Statler. At the same time, the New England tent will present its own citations to Lou Perini, president of the Boston Braves, who will represent the baseball club, and to Jim Britt, Joseph S. Cifre, John J. Dervin, Ralph Edwards, William H. Sullivan, Jr., and George Swartz for their aid to the club's fund for cancer research.

Republic Schedule

(Continued from page 1)

ly in addition to three special productions, two of which are scheduled for October and one for December.

The October specials will be "Moonrise," starring Dane Clark, Gail Russell and Ethel Barrymore, with Frank Borzage directing, and "Macbeth," starring Orson Welles. The latter will open a two-a-day world premiere engagement on Oct. 7 at the Esquire in Boston.

'Red Pony' for December

December's special is Lewis Milestone's production of John Steinbeck's "The Red Pony," starring Myrna Loy and Robert Mitchum.

The other releases are: "Drums Along the Amazon," starring George Brent, Vera Ralston, Brian Aherne and Constance Bennett; "The Plunderers," starring Rod Cameron and Ilona Massey; "Wake of the Red Witch," starring John Wayne and Gail Russell; "The Missourians," starring William Elliott; "Montana Belle," starring George Brent; Roy Rogers' "Grand Canyon Trail" and "The Far Frontier," both in Tricolor; four Rogers re-releases, "Shine On Harvest Moon," "In Old Caliente," "Frontier Pony Express," and "Saga of Death Valley."

Reissue 'Scatterbrain,' 'Yokel'

Also, "Code of Scotland Yard," "Homicide for Three," "Rose of the Yukon," "Daughter of the Jungle," "Duke of Chicago," "Hideout," "Streets of San Francisco," and the re-releases "Scatterbrain" and "Yokel Boy."

Also, "Denver Kid," "Sundown in Santa Fe," "Renegades of Sonora," "Sheriff of Wichita" and "Death Valley Gunfighter," all starring Alan Lane; "Angel in Exile," starring John Carroll and Adele Mara; "Nighttime in Nevada," starring Roy Rogers; "Sons of Adventure"; "Out of the Storm"; "Desperadoes of Dodge City," starring Alan Lane, and "Son of God's Country," starring Monte Hale.

U. S. Accuses

(Continued from page 1)

charges and extra surcharges, and established various methods for detecting deviations from the established prices.

They also designated charges made for each item of variation in "tailor-made" special tickets, the FTC said. Other Commission findings showed that the firms standardized products as to size, style, color, weight and quality. The FTC declared that the six trade associations were organized as "clearing houses or central agencies to effectuate the conspiracy."

All of these things, the FTC said, violated the anti-trust laws, and the Commission ordered the firms and associations from entering into any further conspiracy to fix prices, employ any central agency to regulate prices, exchange price lists, exchange information on charges for tailor-made tickets, adopting uniform standards as to style, size, or color of tickets or the weight and quality of the paper or cardboard in the tickets, or any of the other practices said to be illegal.

The FTC said that its findings were based on answers filed by the respondents, admitting with certain qualifications all of the material allegations of the complaint and waiving all hearings and other procedure.

PCCITO Urges End Of Sex, Crime Films

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 19.—Demand that the Motion Picture Association of America "take immediate steps" to eliminate pictures portraying crime and sex themes was made here at the weekend by trustees of the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners, citing "Rope," "Canon City," "Sorry, Wrong Number" and "Lulu Belle" as cases in point.

The trustees also announced "the PCCITO has repeatedly requested distributors to stop the unfair trade practice of 'commercialized previews,' which are now being shown in all major cities. Eight Western states having received no relief from this abuse, the trustees of the PCCITO have authorized an investigation to be immediately made on the legality of this practice."

3 - Film Deal Set by Hughes with Banks

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 19.—RKO Radio's first outside production deal since Howard Hughes acquired control of the company has been signed with Polan Banks Productions. Banks will produce three pictures independently, starring Ann Sheridan, within two years. He will also write the scenarios, first of which, entitled "Carriage Entrance," will start in January.

The studio said Hughes negotiated the deal.

Austrian Resigns F. C. & B. Video Post

Ralph B. Austrian has resigned as vice-president in charge of television for Foote, Cone and Belding, effective last Thursday, he announced at the weekend.

Austrian, who formerly was president of RKO Television Corp., said his resignation was due to "irreconcilable differences of opinion," particularly on programming policies. His future plans are undecided at this time.

City Investing

(Continued from page 1)

will also make available to Lopert additional funds in return for the issuance of 10-year debentures which will be issued to City and existing stockholders. The new funds of the corporation will provide capital for contemplated expansion in the "art cinema" field, both in distribution and exhibition.

Although a full agreement on the deal has been reached, a contract will not be signed until next month when I. E. Lopert, president of the company, returns from Rome, where he is now conferring with Roberto Rossellini, Italian producer-director.

Lopert plans an expanded theatre circuit on a national basis in addition to the theatres it now holds. As part of the City deal, Lopert becomes the operator of the Bijou Theatre here.

Robert Goelet, prominent in financial and real estate circles, will also acquire a stock and debenture interest in the Lopert company.

The deal was negotiated by Lopert and Seymour M. Peiser for the Lopert group, with Robert Dowling, president of City Investing. Peiser, a member of the law firm of Phillips, Nizer, Benjamin and Krim, is vice-president and counsel of Lopert.

Watch for

U-I's

"UNITY

Drive!"



BIG THINGS
COOKING!



Keep Posting!

SHOWMANSHIP
Built SHOW BUSINESS!

SHOWMANSHIP can
Better SHOW BUSINESS!

"The motion picture good enough to
sell itself has not yet been made"



NATIONAL *Screen* SERVICE
PRIZE BABY OF THE INDUSTRY

Accurate
Concise
and
Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

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NO. 1
FIRST
IN
FILM
NEWS

64. NO. 57 NEW YORK, U.S.A., TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 1948 TEN CENTS

Allied to Fight Decree without Divorcement

Myers Says Independents Would Seek Court Aid

WASHINGTON, Sept. 20.—Allied States General counsel Abram F. Myers indicated today that there would be prompt court action by

Commenting on earlier opposition by SIMPP to a possible consent decree in the industry anti-trust suit, Assistant Attorney General Robert Wright told *Motion Picture Daily* in Washington last Thursday that "there are no consent decree negotiations going on now."

independent exhibitors to block any consent decree settlement to the Paramount case which does not include complete divestiture.

Myers said he is not too worried about a consent decree settlement of the case, but
(Continued on page 3)

Solons Get Bid for Divorcement Statute

MINNEAPOLIS, Sept. 20.—A plea for legislation that would completely divorce production and exhibition was made here today before a House Small Business Committee.

Testifying before the committee, which is hearing complaints of small business men throughout the nation, Stanley D. Kane, counsel for North Central Allied, charged that, despite the recent U. S. Supreme Court decision in the Paramount case, independent operators in this territory still are being forced to accept tie-in sales. "To get one good picture, they must
(Continued on page 3)

Master to Decide On Book Auditing

CHICAGO, Sept. 20.—Examination of the text of the memorandum filed on Friday by U. S. Judge William Campbell in the suits filed by eight distributors here against the Alger circuit over percentage returns, reveals the plaintiffs were not denied the right to audit the circuit's books, as previ-
(Continued on page 3)

New Pictures Score in N. Y.

While several holdovers at New York first runs are showing signs of box-office fatigue, new pictures are lifting the overall returns to a good average. Matinee trade during the week fell off with the reopening of schools.

"Good Sam" and a stage show at the Music Hall is in solid with \$138,000 for the first week. "Luck of the Irish" with Ed Sullivan's "Harvest Moon" stage show should provide the Roxy with a strong \$108,000 in an initial week. "Rachel and the Stranger" will give the Mayfair a substantial estimated \$40,000 in its opening week, and the management reports no incidents of any kind stemming from the fact that the picture stars Robert Mitchum of newspaper headlines.

The Paramount is still getting big money, on \$90,000 in a third week, with "Sorry, Wrong Number" and a
(Continued on page 3)

Industry Leaders in Fabian Tribute Here

Industry leaders and civic officials will join in the Cinema Lodge, B'nai B'rith tribute to S. H. Fabian, president of Fabian Theatres, at the Hotel Astor here tonight. Fabian is being honored for his service to humanity.

Among those invited to the dais are: Barney Balaban, Spyros P. Skouras, George Skouras, Jack Cohn, Malcolm Kingsberg, Joseph R. Vogel, John J. O'Connor, Leonard Golden-son, Harry Brandt, Abe Montague, Samuel Rinzler, Samuel Rosen, David Weinstock, Walter Vincent, Emil Friedlander. Also, Cinema Lodge
(Continued on page 3)

Wisconsin Rules Theatre Checkers Must Have a Detective's License

Milwaukee, Sept. 20.—Several years of sustained effort by the Independent Theatre Owners of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan, to assure members that box-office checkers "would be of a high type," was culminated with an opinion by Grover L. Broadfoot, attorney general of Wisconsin, interpreting Sec. 175.07 of the Wisconsin statutes, which makes it mandatory for any checker agency and employees engaged in theatre checking to be licensed as private detectives. In addition, the checker must be under bond. The ruling was said to pertain to blind checking, as well as conventional confidential checking.

The board of the ITO believes that if the checking companies are required to live up to this law, the caliber of checkers "will be tremendously improved." The movement to obtain this opinion was originally motivated by Harold Berkholtz, an exhibitor from West Bend, Wis.

Immediate notification has been sent to all distributors, advising them of the opinion.

Nine Companies Sign Pact with Colosseum

Chicago, Sept. 20.—Nine distributor negotiators have signed agreements with the Colosseum of Motion Picture Salesmen and the remaining two are expected to sign shortly. Agreement on a union contract was reached here at the weekend. Although the amount of the wage increase involved was not disclosed—it is believed to approximate 10 per cent—an agreement has been reached on automobile mileage allowance amounting to seven and one-half cents a mile.

Meanwhile, Frank Flaherty, Columbia salesman and president of the Chicago lodge, announced that the organization's first national convention will be held here Oct. 16-17 at the Sheraton Hotel.

Rumors About Univ. Spiked By Blumberg

Company in Good Shape; Denies Studio Dissension

Rumors of studio executive changes and financial problems within Universal during the past few months yesterday were branded



Nate Blumberg

by Nate J. Blumberg, president, as "vicious, malicious and without foundation." At a press conference at his office, he said "several people" have been "planting" and spreading fabricated stories about a possible sale of the company, about

non-existent financial difficulties and about internal differences between studio executives.

Blumberg denied specifically reports that William Goetz and Leo Spitz
(Continued on page 4)

RKO Clearances in 10 NY Spots Is Out

The seven-day clearance which RKO Theatres had over 10 independent circuit houses in the New York area has been eliminated by Universal-International, Nate J. Blumberg, president, reported here yesterday. The circuits, which consequently will have some of their houses playing day-and-date with RKO, are Century, Rand-force and Skouras.

Meanwhile, it is learned that sales executives of several film companies
(Continued on page 3)

10 Cities Get SPG Management Attack

CIO's Eastern Screen Publicists Guild and Screen Office and Professional Employees Guild will extend into 10 cities their New York propaganda campaign against distributors who have refused to negotiate new contracts with the guilds because they failed to comply with the non-Com-
(Continued on page 4)

Personal Mention

JOSEPH H. SEIDELMAN, head of foreign operations for Universal-International, will leave here this week for Europe.

MONTAGUE SALMON, managing director of the Rivoli Theatre here, who appeared on the WEVD discussion program "I Challenge You" at the weekend, has been scheduled for a reappearance.

JACK ELLIS, United Artists New York district manager, and **JAMES WINN**, Buffalo branch manager, have returned to New York from a business trip to the Kallet Theatre in Oneida, N. Y.

A. J. O'KEEFE, Universal-International assistant general sales manager, has returned to New York from Los Angeles.

EDWARD M. SCHNITZER, United Artists Eastern and Canadian sales manager, and **ABE DICKSTEIN**, his assistant, left here yesterday for Gloversville, N. Y.

RICHARD NASSER of Nasser Brothers Theatres has returned to San Francisco from a trip to Honolulu, Manila, Japan and China.

JIM DALY, **PAUL DAWES**, **HAROLD WILLIAMS** and **JOHN YOUNGBLOOD** have been added to the Wil-Kin Theatre Supply sales force in Atlanta.

FLORENCE SCULLY SLATER, Universal-International head booker in Boston and sister of U-I sales vice-president **WILLIAM A. SCULLY**, is ill.

MAURICE BERGMAN, Universal's Eastern director of advertising, is nursing a torn leg ligament encountered on a tennis court.

WALTER WANGER is expected back in New York on Oct. 4 from Hollywood.

WILLIAM F. RODGERS, M-G-M sales vice-president, returned here yesterday from Washington.

NORMAN ELSON, Trans-Lux vice-president, will be in Washington tomorrow from New York.

JAMES R. GRAINGER, Republic distribution vice-president, is back in New York from the Coast.

GILBERT KURLAND, producer, is here from the Coast.

Show 'Secret Land' From All Angles

WASHINGTON, Sept. 20.—M-G-M is planning press previews of "The Secret Land" aboard Navy ships and airplanes, a submarine and at large Naval installations on land across the country, it is disclosed here. Subject of the picture is the Navy's 1946-'47 Antarctica expedition.

Long Delay Before 'Frisco Video Ruling

WASHINGTON, Sept. 20.—It will be the first of the year or later before the Federal Communications Commission hands down its decision on the controversial San Francisco television allocations, in which Paramount and 20th Century-Fox are among five firms jockeying for two open channels.

That is the opinion of FCC Examiner Jack Blume, who is handling the case. He pointed out that applicants have until Sept. 30 to file proposed findings of fact, and that it will take him six weeks to two months after that to write up his recommendations. Then more time will elapse before the Commission acts on his findings.

The case will also involve a finding on whether Paramount controls Dumont. If the FCC says it does, Paramount will be automatically barred from the race on the ground that its subsidiaries already control the five-station maximum permitted by the FCC.

Asks FCC Open Ultra High Frequencies

WASHINGTON, Sept. 20.—Dr. Thomas S. Goldsmith, director of research for Allen B. DuMont Laboratories, asked the Federal Communications Commission to open the ultra-high frequencies—between 485 and 890 megacycles—immediately for experimentation in black and white television.

Goldsmith declared that a minimum of 28 additional channels, beyond the present 12, were needed to satisfy the demand for commercial television broadcasting, and that he "could see no possibility" of getting these added channels from the present commercial VHF band. He said that 69 new channels, six megacycles apart, could be obtained by expanding into the upper frequencies.

The DuMont official was one of several witnesses at the opening session of hearings by the FCC this week on the need for allowing video to use the upper frequencies.

Eastern SMPE Will Meet Here Tomorrow

First meeting of the fall-winter session of the Atlantic Coast section of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers, which will be held here tomorrow night, will feature two papers, one by Robert M. Frazer of National Broadcasting, on "Recording of Television Programs on Motion Picture Films," the other by Lorin D. Grignon of 20th Century-Fox's studio sound department, on "Flicker in Motion Pictures."

Roberts Leaving SRO

Joseph L. Roberts, Eastern public relations director for Vanguard Films and Selznick Releasing Organization, has resigned, effective Sept. 30. Roberts joined Selznick Sept. 1, 1944, after serving as publicity director for the Center Theatre here for five years.

RKO Stockholders May Meet in Nov.

Hollywood, Sept. 20.—No firm date has been set yet for the annual meeting of RKO stockholders for election of directors and the transaction of other business, it was stated officially here. Previous reports that the meeting had been scheduled for Oct. 19 were in error, it was stated.

Indications are that the meeting, customarily held in June, but delayed following the purchase by Howard Hughes of Atlas Corp.'s controlling stock interest in RKO, will not be held before late November, at the earliest.

\$2.40 Top for 'Joan' At Victoria in N. Y.

Walter Wanger's "Joan of Arc" will make its debut on Nov. 11 at the Victoria here with admissions ranging from 95 cents to \$2.40 top, the house being scaled for a weekly gross of \$75,000 with seven performances daily, Maurice Maurer, who operates the theatre for City Investing Co., owner, disclosed here yesterday. He said he anticipates a run of between six months to one year.

Weekday admissions will be 95 cents from the nine A. M. opening to 12 noon, \$1.20 from 12 to five P. M., \$1.50 from five to seven, and \$1.80 to closing. Saturday: \$1.20 in the morning, \$1.50 in the afternoon, and \$2.40 evenings. Sunday: \$1.20 from the noon opening to one P. M., \$1.80 from one to five, and \$2.40 to closing.

Realart Will Release 'Phantom', 'Ali Baba'

Release of two Technicolor pictures, "Phantom of the Opera" and "Ali Baba and the 40 Thieves" as Realart's "anniversary specials" was announced here yesterday by Budd Rogers, distribution vice-president, at the opening of the company's first annual sales convention at the Hotel Warwick here.

Other features to be released are: "Saboteur," "I Cover the War," "Crazy House," "My Little Chickadee," "Diamond Frontier," "Frontier Badmen," "State Police," "Armored Car," "Give Out, Sisters," "Mr. Big," "North of the Klondike" and "Ski Patrol."

25 Films Scheduled By Protestant Unit

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 20.—Protestant Film Commission will produce 25 films, mostly features, under the present schedule, with those among them suitable for theatre exhibition going into commercial release through an undetermined distributor, PFC executive producer Paul F. Heard revealed here. "Prejudice," first feature pointed for theatre use, was completed last week and release is now being negotiated.

Charity Unit To Meet Today to Plan Drive

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 20.—Permanent Charities Committee will plan the 1949 campaign for its united appeal at a luncheon tomorrow at the Beverly Hills Hotel, with Roy M. Brewer, chairman, outlining the solicitation procedure to be used to realize the group's quota of \$1,303,720. In calling the meeting, Joseph M. Schenck, who will be host at the luncheon, said: "At this difficult time it is more than important that top executives actively participate in the industry's annual fund-raising effort."

'Red Shoes' at National

WASHINGTON, Sept. 20.—The National Theatre, which ended its career as Washington's only legitimate theatre on July 31 rather than give in to an Equity ultimatum to end its segregation policy, will reopen in mid-October as a film house with the world premiere of J. Arthur Rank's "The Red Shoes." The film will be shown at advanced prices on a two-a-day reserved-seat policy.

Abner Heads MPA Group

Ben Abner has been appointed chairman of the nominating committee of the Motion Picture Associates, New York. Other members of the group are David Levy, Maury Miller, Seymour Florin and Leon J. Bamberger.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
GARY COOPER • ANN SHERIDAN
in **LEO McCAREY'S**
"GOOD SAM"
A Rainbow Productions, Inc. Picture
Released by RKO Radio Pictures
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

Barbara Stanwyck
Burt Lancaster
in
'SORRY, WRONG NUMBER'
A Paramount Release
PARAMOUNT TIMEX SQUARE MIDWINTER FEATURE NIGHTLY

ROSALIND RUSSELL
in
"THE VELVET TOUCH"
A FREDERICK BRISSON PRODUCTION
Released through RKO
RIVOLI B'way & 49th St.

RKO presents
LORETTA WILLIAM ROBERT
YOUNG HOLDEN MITCHUM
in
'RACHEL and the STRANGER'
Brand's **MAYFAIR** 7th Ave. & 47th St.

TOA Heads Arrive For Chicago Meet

CHICAGO, Sept. 20.—Starting today, officers and staff members of Theatre Owners of America will converge on Chicago from all sections of the country to consult with John Balaban, chairman and Edward Zorn, vice-chairman of TOA's national convention which will be held Sept. 24 and 25 at the Drake Hotel, here.

Arriving today from Washington will be Gael Sullivan, executive director of the TOA, and from New York will come Stanley W. Prenosil, assistant executive director and Henry Murdock, of the public relations staff.

Tuesday arrivals will include Ted R. Gamble, TOA president, arriving from Portland; Robert W. Coyne, convention consultant; Herman Levy, general counsel, and Henry Ferber, comptroller, all from New York; Charles P. Skouras, treasurer; Spyros P. Skouras will be a guest speaker. Thornton Sargent is co-chairman of publicity, with William K. Hollander.

Fred Wehrenberg, chairman of the board of directors, will arrive from St. Louis on Wednesday, and so will Mrs. Sally Meiselman and Sylvia Ras-kin of the TOA New York staff. Wednesday arrivals will also include S. H. Fabian, chairman of the executive committee, New York; Leonard H. Goldenson, first vice president, New York, and Morris Lowenstein, Oklahoma City.

New York Grosses

(Continued from page 1)

stage show headed by Carmen Cavallaro. "Luxury Liner" with Gene Krupa on stage at the Capitol is headed for a second week's gross of \$64,000, fair enough, after an initial week's \$81,000. "Loves of Carmen" looks like \$36,000, which is good for a third week at the State. About \$30,000 is indicated for the fourth week of "Rope" at the Globe, no complaints.

Eighth week of "Babe Ruth Story" at the Astor will gross about \$16,000, which is not too good. "Velvet Touch" is down to \$17,000, estimated, in a third week at the Rivoli; this is low. At the Criterion, "Tap Roots" should do an unexciting \$17,000 in a fourth and final week and will be replaced tomorrow by "For the Love of Mary." "Two Guys from Texas" with a giveaway stage show is likely to give the Strand a modest \$30,000 in a fourth week. The Winter Garden might get \$12,000, which is not much, from a third week of "Larceny." "Ruthless" is headed for a mild \$8,500 in a third and final week at the Gotham; it will be replaced on Friday by "The Olympic Games of 1948."

RKO RADIO PICTURES, Inc.

MEMPHIS
TRADE SHOWING

of Samuel Goldwyn's

"A SONG IS BORN"

CRITTENDEN THEATRE
WEST MEMPHIS, ARK.

WED., SEPT. 29, at 8:30 P. M.

Allied on Decree

(Continued from page 1)

added that if there were a decree and if it did not include divestiture, he did not think it would be too long before the Supreme Court would be asked to rap Attorney General Tom Clark on the knuckles for agreeing to such a settlement.

"There is really no precedent anywhere for a consent judgment based on a Supreme Court mandate," Myers said. "The compromise is usually before the case goes to trial. I do not think there is any discretion left to the Attorney General to give away what the court said belonged to the independent exhibitor. I can't see a consent decree unless the other side wants to give in and agree to complete divestiture."

Myers cited as precedent a case involving the Reading Co. reorganization in the early 1920's, in which the Attorney General did not insist on Reading giving up the Continental Insurance Co., after the Supreme Court had ruled on the company's general reorganization.

A suit was brought by some of the stockholders, Myers said, and "first thing the Attorney General knew, he was before the Supreme Court defending himself, and got very soundly spanked for doing less than the Supreme Court had ordered."

Myers said that if a consent decree were entered into and proved unsatisfactory to the independents, "there'd be lots of ways to reopen the case at the Supreme Court. It might be a new suit, we might file an information, or the court might reopen it on its own."

Allied Calls Off Regular Summer Meeting of Board

WASHINGTON, Sept. 20.—There will be no meeting of the Allied States Association's board of directors here this month as originally scheduled, Allied counsel Abram F. Myers said today.

Allied was to have its summer board meeting here, but members decided to pass it this year, Myers said. Instead, there will be a meeting of the executive committee next month, probably in Washington, and then the fall board meeting in New Orleans at the end of November.

Detroit Council Sets SIMPP Suit Replies

DETROIT, Sept. 20.—Rockwell Gust, Detroit attorney, who has been Paramount's mainstay in litigation here, has been retained to represent United Detroit Theatres' in the anti-trust suit action filed here by the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers against UDT and Cooperative Theatres of Michigan.

Gust is preparing an answer to the suit. He has conferred with Mort Lan, Paramount home office legalite, who made a trip here to discuss Paramount's defense.

Anthony J. Roman

ALBANY, N. Y., Sept. 20.—Funeral services will be held Wednesday for Anthony J. Roman, one of Albany's first film operators, who died on Saturday night at Memorial Hospital after a six weeks' illness. Roman began at the Comique, converted from a store into a nickelodeon. The widow, a brother, Louis, a projectionist here, and a sister survive.

Solons Get Bid

(Continued from page 1)

take three or four 'dogs,' Kane testified. He cited an example in which a Faribault, Minn., operator, Will J. Glaser, refused to buy Paramount films after a dispute with the company; then, Kane said, Paramount "plastered the town" with hand-bills and other advertisements of its latest pictures, which Glaser refused to exhibit.

A complete divorcement, Kane said, "would make a free and open market which would improve the quality of the product." He added that there is a scarcity of good films and that they are being "deliberately restricted" in Hollywood.

Charges Companies Disobey Supreme Court Decision

OMAHA, Sept. 20.—Independent exhibitors charged film companies are not obeying the U. S. Supreme Court decision in the New York Paramount case, before a House Small Business Committee hearing here.

Theatre men told the committee, headed by Rep. Ploeser (Rep. Mo.), that they often lose money by being forced to take pictures which they do not want in order to play one that they do want.

When Vernon Monjar, Ocheydan, Iowa, theatre-owner, told about film firm pressure-tactics to take pictures, Ploeser declared: "You have the greatest weapon in the world, your own screen, why don't you tell this story on your screen?"

"We have threatened to do that," said Alvin C. Myrick, of Lake Park, president of the Iowa-Nebraska Allied Independent Theatre Owners Association.

"Don't just threaten," retorted Ploeser, "do it."

Book Auditing

(Continued from page 1)

ously believed and so reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY today.

All that Judge Campbell did was refer the cases to a master with instructions to conduct a separate trial on the issue of whether illegality in the licensing agreement is a defense to fraud suits and for him to decide the distributors' motion for inspection, the exhibitors' motion for particulars, and any other motions that may arise.

According to industry attorneys, the judge did not decide whether the defense of illegality which has been interposed in many other cases is a good defense. They say the only novelty in this ruling is that the judge referred the question for decision to a master for a separate trial on the illegality question.

RKO Clearances

(Continued from page 1)

still are engaged in discussions of clearances here and substantial revisions are expected. Malcolm Kingsberg, president of RKO Theatres, declined to comment on the subject yesterday.

Jacob Hirsch Services

Funeral services were held here at the weekend at Park West Memorial Chapel for Jacob Hirsch, father of Leonard Hirsch, home office assistant to Rudy Berger, M-G-M Southern sales manager.

Johnston Reported Near Russian Deal

Eric A. Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association of America, told a news conference in Moscow that the sale of 10 American films to Russia annually is in view, according to press association reports published here yesterday. "It would appear that we have reached a meeting of minds on the sale of pictures to the Soviet Union," Johnston is quoted as saying. He said that the Russians would buy U. S. product from a list which "we submit to them."

ECA Approves

(Continued from page 1)

of the contract have now been worked out and put in writing, they stressed.

The amount involved is about \$460,000 on an annual basis. This would be the first contract announced under the ECA Act's guarantee of distribution cost of films, books, magazines and other media in Marshall Plan nations.

Gen. Clay announced his approval of the deal in general some weeks ago; it is his approval of the final detailed contract that is now being awaited.

Fabian Tribute

(Continued from page 1)

past presidents Robert M. Weitman, Jack Levin, Albert A. Senft, Adolph Schimel, Irving Greenfield, Arthur Israel, Jr., and Alfred W. Schwalberg.

Civic officials will include Hugo Rogers, who will induct new members; John M. Cannella, New York City license commissioner; Judges Henry Clay Greenberg and Benjamin Shalleck; James Sauter and Maurice P. Davidson. Lucy Monroe and Irving Caesar will participate.

New Brandt Department

Setting up of an advertising-publicity department under the supervision of Arthur Rosoff and Henry Yussen has been announced by Brandt Theatres here. The department will coordinate all advertising and publicity functions of the circuit.



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Blumberg

(Continued from page 1)

would resign and that the two were at odds on policy matters.

"They have had no serious differences," Blumberg declared, and reminded that their contracts have five years from Nov. 1 to run. "They are doing an excellent job," he added.

He said that there have been "no talks" about a sale of the company. He pointed out that of the 952,000 shares of common stock outstanding, 450,000 shares are held by J. Arthur Rank, Spitz, Goetz, the management, and members of the board of directors. Stock control would have to be purchased in the open market, he declared.

Cites Untouched Bank Credit

"There is no truth to the rumor that we are in financial difficulty," Blumberg stressed. "The company has several millions of dollars in bank credit available which has not been taken advantage of," he said. Bankers have placed no ceiling on the company's production budget, he declared, adding that banking interests have complete confidence in management and have no voice in operation of the company. He branded as untrue reports that Joseph P. Kennedy was acquiring a large interest in the company.

Blumberg reported that Universal has paid \$22,000,000 in taxes since 1940. A substantial tax refund claim by the company is now awaiting decision by the Government.

The company's business in the U. S. and Canada has increased between 30 and 35 per cent since July 1 as the result of a "great run of product," Blumberg reported. He discussed with enthusiasm forthcoming releases, describing the new line-up as the best in the country's history. He said that the studio will resume new production activity on Oct. 4, with 30 pictures on schedule to January, 1950. He said 16 completed films have yet to be released and that eight others are currently set.

To Release 24 of Its Own

In addition to its own 24, Universal will have for release during the next year a minimum of 12 from J. Arthur Rank. No foreign production will be undertaken by the company, he said.

In discussing the "best program in our history," Blumberg reported that two films due shortly, "You Gotta Stay Happy" and "Family Honey-moon," will go into Radio City Music Hall.

Closing foreign markets and soaring negative costs prompted the company to suspend new production at the studio during the summer "so that we could take a good look and see where we were going, and to make proper

adjustments," Blumberg said. He added that production costs have come down somewhat since actors, directors and others have come upon the realization that adjustments are needed. He called upon exhibitors to "co-operate" with distributors if the former want "quality pictures."

Blumberg disclosed that executive employment contracts which were not renewed by the company upon their expiration last year have been continued on a "year-to-year" basis, the current pacts running to Dec. 31, 1949.

Universal, he said, in reply to a question, is interested in a consent decree in the industry anti-trust case "from the viewpoint of seeing the industry suit settled. No one will know where we are until that case is adjudicated," he said.

Canadian Archbishop Sets Film 'Clean-Up'

OTTAWA, Sept. 20.—Aimed at checking the "evil influences of bad movies," a one-day "clean-up" campaign on Oct. 31 has been decreed by Archbishop Vachon in a circular letter read from all Roman Catholic pulpits.

Condemning motion pictures as "often extremely objectionable" from the Christian viewpoint, he emphasized that "no one can question the power of movies in our modern life." He also referred to some films marked "adults only" as being unfit even for adults.

Memphis Censors Ban Warner's 'Rope'

MEMPHIS, Sept. 20.—"Rope," Warner Brothers, has been banned by the Memphis censor board, chairman Loyd P. Binford discloses here. "The picture is too reminiscent of a brutal and shocking murder of a youth by two self-styled intellectuals, committed several years ago in one of our large cities," Binford said.

The film had been scheduled to start at the Warner here Thursday.

SAG Group Here

A delegation of the Screen Actors Guild arrived here yesterday from the Coast to discuss with Equity and the American Federation of Radio Artists problems covering television and a closer working agreement. In the group are Walter Pidgeon, George Chandler, Lee Bowman, William Holden and Larry Beilenson, attorney.

Kaiser in New Ad Post

Sam Kaiser has joined Blaine-Thompson advertising agency here to head its newly-expanded motion picture department. He was last associated with Kayton-Spiero on the 20th Century-Fox account.

SPG Attack

(Continued from page 1)

munist affidavit provisions of the Taft-Hartley Law.

This was announced here yesterday jointly by SPG president Jeff Livingston and SOPEG president Sidney Young. They said the extended campaign will begin shortly with the passing out of leaflets in front of theatres playing pictures of Paramount, Columbia, United Artists, M-G-M, RKO Radio, Republic, 20th-Fox, Universal-International and Warner. Eagle-Lion is not included since that company has agreed to negotiate.

Appeal for Boycott by Labor

The unions' presidents disclosed also that they have sent appeals to other unions across the country, both AFL and CIO, urging their members to boycott the films of the nine companies. Additionally, they said, the guilds have written to J. Arthur Rank in London, pointing up the "intransigent position" of U-I as compared with the "fair position" of E-L. Rank was warned, Young said, that U-I's Rank product may be subject to boycotts in consequence. Both E-L and U-I distribute for Rank in the U. S.

Although "the possibility of strike action is always present," the guilds plan to concentrate for a "reasonable time" on "less-violent" ways of attempting to bring about reconciliations with the companies, the guilds' presidents said.

Livingston announced that Leon Roth, UA publicist, has been named chairman of an SPG-SOPEG committee to publicize the unions' position. Roth will be assisted by Phil Cowan of UA.

Financial Statements Filed

Young announced that SOPEG and its parent union, United Office and Professional Workers of America, have now filed with the National Labor Relations Board financial statements so that they will be able to make a court test of the constitutionality of the Taft-Hartley Law. Young intimated that SOPEG will make its first move by applying for a court injunction to challenge the holding of the scheduled shop election at UA where IATSE Local H-63 says it has won "an overwhelming majority" of employees away from SOPEG.

'IA' Work Stoppage Faces Pathe Today as 'Pressure'

With Warners and Universal committed to negotiate a new union contract covering their home office "white collar" workers with IATSE Home Office Employees Local No. H-63, following several weeks of dispute, the local last night made plans to secure a similar commitment from Pathe Laboratories here. A work stoppage, comparable to the one applied against Universal last Thursday, is scheduled for Pathe this morning.

The Pathe work stoppage was called by H-63 business agent Russell Moss in telegrams sent last evening to the employees, who were requested to report at Harlem Terrace here this morning for a discussion of "further action" in light of the impasse reached in talks with Nick Tronolone, Pathe vice-president.

Meanwhile, according to an "IA" international headquarters report "IA" president Richard F. Walsh has named, as his personal representative in future negotiations with Universal international representative Joseph D. Basson and organizer James Rogers.

Kronenberg Golf Winner

Abe Kronenberg, head of Warners' promotion department here, won the low gross prize, which was the Albert Warner trophy, at the Warner Club's golf tournament held at the Vernon Hills Country Club, Tuckahoe. Other winners were: Harry Rosenquest, Tony Bills, Joe Goldstein, Leonard Palumbo, William Cannon, Bill Heineman, Jack Kingsley. Best dressed golfer was Nat Fellman; booby prize went to Hy Blaustein.

Hargrave Quits U.S.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 20.—Thomas J. Hargrave resigned as chairman of the Federal Munitions Board, effective tomorrow, to return to his post as president of Eastman Kodak, from which he has been on leave of absence since May, 1947.



UNITED

Flight Facts



Guess I have the kind of job that every girl dreams about—stewardess on United's glamorous flight, "the Hollywood," the flight so many Hollywood stars and other famous people take!



This is the super de luxe DC-6 Mainliner 300 flight that leaves New York at 12 noon, and arrives in Los Angeles at 8:10 p.m. In other words, just 11 hours, 10 minutes, coast to coast.



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Mary McLaughlin

United Air Lines Stewardess on
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64. NO. 58

NEW YORK, U.S.A., WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1948

TEN CENTS

PCA-Rejected Films Banned By NBC Video

Radio - Television Code Is Adopted by Network

National Broadcasting Co. has adopted a new code of standards and practices for both radio and television which, to some extent, is claimed to be more demanding than the film industry's Production Code. Ken R. Dyke, administrative vice-president, said that any motion picture rejected by the Production Code Administration will be automatically barred from NBC's television-radio network. And, going further, he said that films dealing with crime in any form will not be telecast before 9:30 P.M. Eastern time; 8:30 P.M., Central time, and 9 P.M. elsewhere.

Decision on the new guide was made in New York last week by Niles Trammell, president of the network, and Dyke, but withheld for publication until today to coincide with NBC's convention in Sun Valley, Idaho.

(Continued on page 5)

Salesmen to Weigh Union Pact Oct. 16

With nine distribution companies having already approved terms of the union contract drawn up in negotiation with the Colosseum of Motion Picture Salesmen of America, final ratification by the first convention of the Colosseum will be necessary before the agreement is operative, spokesmen for both sides indicated here yesterday. The Colosseum convention is slated for Oct. 16-17 at the Sheraton Hotel, Chicago.

The contract was described as "a complicated document," but reduced to basic essentials it is understood to provide for a \$10 weekly pay increase for film salesmen, together with an

(Continued on page 4)

Exhibitor Studies US Video for India

F. H. Sidhwa, managing director of Globe Theatres, Ltd., with headquarters at Bombay, India, is in New York in the course of a visit to the United States to acquaint himself with television developments and production plans of Hollywood studios.

Visiting the office of Quigley Publications here yesterday, Sidhwa said

(Continued on page 5)

UK Industry Finance Unit Established

LONDON, Sept. 21.—House of Commons today received from British Board of Trade president Harold Wilson the names of members of the committee which will fulfill the functions of the government-sponsored Film Finance Corp. pending formal registration of the corporation.

The members are: J. H. Lawrie, chairman and managing director; Nicholas Davenport, economist and financial adviser to Sir Alexander Korda; S. J. Pears, accountant and formerly cost controller of the U. K. Supply Ministry; C. H. Scott, industry attorney, who includes J. Arthur Rank among his clients, and R. J. Stopford, formerly finance councillor

(Continued on page 5)

Realart Rounds Out Its 1948-49 Program

Realart Pictures, in the second session of its sales convention at the Warwick Hotel here yesterday, appointed a committee of nine of its franchise-holders to select the final group of 12 pictures for its 1948-49 program, and Sherman S. Krellberg, chairman of the committee, announced the following title selections:

"Three Smart Girls," "It Ain't Hay," "Who Done It," "Sherlock Holmes and the Secret Weapon," "The Scarlet Claw," "Mutiny in the

(Continued on page 4)

Average March-Aug. Ticket Price Was About 50½¢

New Jackson Park Decree Test Seen

CHICAGO, Sept. 21.—Possibility of a new test of the Jackson Park decree arose today when Judge Michael Igoe in U. S. District Court quashed Paramount's petition asking him to uphold the distributor's interpretation of the decree to allow them to play "A Foreign Affair" at the Balaban and Katz Tivoli Theatre on an exclusive run basis starting Friday.

Judge Igoe told the court that playing the film on the South Side exclusively would probably mean that Paramount would want the same pri-

(Continued on page 5)

File Gov't Findings In N. Y. Case Oct. 1

Washington, Sept. 21.—The Justice Department's proposed findings and proposed judgment in the Paramount New York anti-trust case will be filed around Oct. 1, a Department official said.

He refused to discuss any details of the Government's proposed findings and judgment in the Schine case, which will probably be filed on the Oct. 15 deadline.

4 Distributors Cut RKO NY Clearance

RKO Radio, 20th Century-Fox, Warners and Universal have eliminated the seven-day clearance which RKO theatres have had over 10 theatres in the New York exchange area operated by Century, Randforce and Skouras circuits. Negotiations for further revision of the clearance system in the New York area continue.

The day-and-date availability with RKO went into effect yesterday at some of the 10 situations. Earlier this week Universal eliminated clearance over the 10. A spokesman for one of the independents here observed, "the wall is beginning to crack" in reference to the 10 houses brought up to date with RKO on openings.

The 10 are Century's Sunnyside, Great Neck and Lynbrook, in Long Island, and the Midwood and Marine, Brooklyn; Skouras's Embassy, Portchester; Tuxedo, Bronx, and Boulevard, Jackson Heights; and Randforces' Walker and Marlboro, in Brooklyn.

Lockwood as TOA President Seen Assured

Gamble Likely to Serve As Chairman of Board

CHICAGO, Sept. 21.—Sentiment favoring the choice of Arthur H. Lockwood, veteran New England exhibitor, for the presidency of Theatre Owners of America appears to be crystallizing here and should be strong enough to carry a "draft" movement in the event Lockwood is not inclined to accept the post when the TOA national convention opens at the Drake Hotel here on Friday.

Ted R. Gamble, first president of the TOA, is definitely unavailable for another term and indications are that directors will elect him chairman of the board, a post which it is believed he would accept, inasmuch as it would place lighter demands on his time.

Another TOA officer who has definitely declined a second term is Charles Skouras, who did an out-

(Continued on page 5)

TOA Sets Chicago Convention Program

CHICAGO, Sept. 21.—Theatre Owners of America has completed the program for its convention at the Drake Hotel here, Thursday through Sunday, with a guest list including U. S. Attorney General Tom Clark, Martin H. Kennelly, Mayor of Chicago; Under-Secretary of the Treasury Edward H. Foley, Jr.; Barney Balaban, president of Paramount; Spyros Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox; Robert L. Wright, special assistant to the Attorney General; Rev. Preston Bradley, Peoples Church, Chicago; Rabbi Jacob Weinstein,

(Continued on page 5)

John R. Dillon, 58, 20th-Fox Director

John R. Dillon, 58, member of the board of directors of 20th Century-Fox and National Theatres, died Monday night after a lingering illness. The remains are reposing at Campbell's Funeral Parlor, 81st and Madison, New York. A funeral mass will be sung tomorrow at St. Patrick's

(Continued on page 4)

Personal Mention

PAUL RAIBOURN, Paramount vice-president, will speak on "The Outlook for Entertainment and Recreation" at the round table meeting of the National Industrial Conference Board tomorrow at the Waldorf-Astoria here.

ARTHUR ABELES, JR., newly-appointed managing director of Warner Brothers Pictures, Ltd., England, arrived here yesterday on the *SS Nieu Amsterdam* for home office conferences. He will then go to the Coast for meetings at the studio.

GERALD MAYER, managing director of Motion Picture Association's international division, arrived here yesterday from Paris on the *SS Queen Elizabeth*.

BERNARD GOODMAN, supervisor of Warner exchanges, left here yesterday for Chicago; he is due back at the end of the week.

LEONIDE KIPNIS, Westport International president, will leave here tomorrow for Europe on the *SS Queen Elizabeth*.

HARRY FENDRICK, associated with M-G-M in Philadelphia for 12 years, has been named Warner salesman in Albany.

JOHN F. CAMPBELL has resigned as vice-president in charge of manufacturing at International Projector Corp.

TOM DONALDSON, Northeastern division sales manager for Eagle-Lion, left Boston yesterday for Albany.

C. J. (PAT) SCOLLARD, Paramount's labor relations director, began a two-week vacation yesterday.

Farnol Names Miles, Block to His Staff

The New York publicity office of Samuel Goldwyn Productions has been reorganized, with Philip Miles joining the staff of Lynn Farnol to handle exploitation, formerly handled by Bill Ruder, and Arthur Block to handle the publicity assignment formerly held by George Weissman. Block was with Universal-International, while Miles was with Allan Meltzer and Co.

Marion Sawyer will be publicity assistant, and Martin Davis will hold the No. 2 spot in exploitation. Ruth Cosgrove will continue on radio and music exploitation of "A Song Is Born."

Kaye Film Opens Oct. 19

The new Danny Kaye comedy, "A Song Is Born," will have its world premiere at the Astor Theatre, New York, on Tuesday, Oct. 19. Virginia Mayo is co-starred in the Samuel Goldwyn Technicolor production, which is Kaye's fifth and final one for the producer.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

IT has been seldom custom for the president of a major company to hold a full-scale press interview for the express purpose of denying a welter of rumors regarding the internal status of his corporation. Rarely is it practice for MOTION PICTURE DAILY to refute stories which it has never published. On two counts, consequently, Nate Blumberg's office at Universal-International was the focal point of a somewhat unusual circumstance on Monday.

His purpose in asking the trade press to forego was never in doubt. Awaiting no questions from reporters assembled, Blumberg took note of the accelerating series of printed reports by declaring as "vicious, malicious and without foundation" unconfirmed rumors that [1] Bill Goetz and Leo Spitz were being "pushed out" of their executive production posts; [2] Goetz and Spitz were fighting one another with the inevitable corroding effect on production and [3] Universal was for sale, or being offered for sale.

Frankness marked Blumberg's attitude. In fact, he went further than he had any need with such voluntarily proffered information as:

A.—Goetz and Spitz have five more years from Nov. 1 under their contracts. Goetz holds about 75,000 shares of company stock, Spitz about 62,500, Arthur Rank, 132,000. These three, together with management and the directorate, control 450,000 shares of the 952,000 of common outstanding. Rank's is the largest individual block, as it has been for some years.

B.—Bill and Leo have had their disagreements, but never more serious than might be anticipated in balancing two different viewpoints. One story had it that Spitz opposed such films as "Another Part of the Forest," "All My Sons," "Double Life" and "Another Act of Murder" as contestable box-office attractions.

It seems to us Blumberg was being consistent and fair in pointing out that, while U-I was not for sale and had never been approached by Joe Kennedy or any other individual or group, slightly better than 50 per cent of the stock was scattered among 4,000 stockholders. Thus: "The only way to acquire the

company is to buy the open market stock downtown." He viewed this eventuality as entirely remote and impractical without resort to one or more major stockholders who evidently have no idea of being resorted to.

In discussing cessation of production, Blumberg stressed a very major problem which bothers all companies in the field. This has to do with the reservoir of high cost negatives made under wartime, or immediate post-war conditions, and the need to work them out of the corporate system in a declining domestic and severely restricted foreign market. Unfortunately, there is nothing that can be done to relieve the pain inherent in this process.

But his best line, and also his most quotable quote, was this: "We are not optimists. Nor are we pessimists. We are realists." It defines the business philosophy which may be expected to govern Universal's thinking while the going is difficult. Blumberg might have gone one step further. In discussing the effort at reducing negative costs, he declared pictures are to be made at a price allowing the company to come out in today's world markets.

In today's home market—always the best market of them all—is the objective most devoutly to be pursued.

Bill Perlberg and George Seaton, the team responsible for the memorable "Miracle on 34th Street," now share the pleasant responsibility for another one strongly reminiscent in mood. Although story content is entirely different, "Apartment for Peggy" again has Edmund Gwenn in a delightful characterization flowering around the love interest provided by Jeanne Crain and Bill Holden. Since pregnancy is an established and accepted matter, this film deals with, and talks about, it for what it is—always in good taste. "Peggy" is a heart-warming film, aimed like an eager arrow at the bull's eye of audience acceptability.

Red Skelton at Variety Club's Humanitarian Award dinner in Washington:

"It's a pleasure to come from Hollywood to Washington without a subpoena in your hand."

Newsreel Parade

BERNADOTTE'S assassination as well as the campaign tours of Truman and Dewey are current newsreel highlights. Other items include Secretary Marshall receiving the Humanitarian Award, and assorted sports and human interest stories. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 76—Truman and Dewey start campaign tours. Communist demonstration ends in riot. Assassination of Bernadotte shocks the world. Marshall given Humanity Award by Variety Club. Football, Pendleton roundup, tuna fishing.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 206—Bernadotte's assassination. Riots mark new crisis in France. Humanitarian Award for Marshall. Bathing beauties. New tennis champs. Football.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 9—Presidential race quickens. "Babes" in the news. Marshall has busy days. Assassination of Bernadotte. Jet-plane sets world speed mark.

UNIVERSAL NEWS, No. 180—Bernadotte slain by assassin. Truman and Dewey on campaign roundup. News in brief: Speed record; Marshall gets Variety award. Sports: Tuna fishing, football.

WARNER PATHE NEWS, No. 11—Truman and Dewey on tour. Bernadotte assassinated. People in the news: Marshall, DeGaulle, Stassen, Air-Force Day. Sports: Football, tennis, Joe Louis trains, Pendleton roundup.

Executive Training Of MGM Men Starts

First group of M-G-M executive trainees, consisting of six men selected from the company's field forces, began their four weeks home office training course yesterday with an introduction to trade press representatives at a luncheon at the Hotel Astor.

William F. Rodgers, Loew's distribution vice-president, said the first group will be followed by other trainees and that he hopes to see many future M-G-M executives chosen from among their number. While here they will meet with and observe the daily work of 58 key Loew executives in distribution, the theatre department, advertising-publicity, M-G-M records, radio station WMGM, and other operations of the company.

In addition, they will be given a course in public speaking at Dale Carnegie Institute, will visit Motion Picture Association of America offices here and will learn industry as well as company public relations work.

In the first group of trainees are Michael Ford, Chicago; A. B. Padgett, Atlanta; Louis J. Weber, Dallas; Phil Gravitz, New Haven; Loris Marks, Cleveland; Russell Gaus, Los Angeles.

Rodgers pointed out that the existence of vital industry problems today makes this an important period in which to train executives.

CRI Studies Ruling

Confidential Reports, Inc. is studying the ruling by Grover L. Broadfoot, Wisconsin attorney general, to the effect that theatre checkers must be licensed as private detectives, in order to determine whether CRI field representatives are subject to it, an organization spokesman declared here yesterday.



Auten Cites 'Henry' Print Conservation

Conservation measures have resulted in United Artists' use of only 66 prints of "Henry V" in 825 engagements varying from one day to 46 weeks. Of the 66 prints, 44 are now in good condition, it was reported yesterday by Capt. Harold Auten, who handles the picture for UA. The picture is in Technicolor.

Constant inspection and replacement of worn parts in each print from others partly unfit for exhibition has resulted in what Auten claims to be a record in conservation.

The film so far has grossed \$3,000,000 with a net profit of \$1,625,000 before division between the producer and distributor, Auten said.

Weitman Again Head Of 'Night of Stars'

Robert M. Weitman, managing director of the New York and Brooklyn Paramount theatres, will again serve as chairman of the producing committee of the "Night of Stars," to be held this year at Madison Square Garden on Monday evening, Nov. 15. Nathan Straus will be general chairman. Proceeds from the show will go to the United Jewish Appeal of Greater New York to help further the work of its agencies in their program of aid to refugees and to build Israel.

A luncheon in honor of Weitman will be given by the "Night of Stars" committee next Tuesday at the Astor Hotel.

Gen. McClure at 1st 1948-49 AMPA Meet

Brig-Gen. Robert A. McClure, USA, chief of the New York field office of the Army's Civil Affairs Division, will be guest speaker at the first 1948-49 season luncheon-opening of the Associated Motion Picture Advertisers, which will be held Sept. 30 at the Hotel Astor, it was announced here yesterday by AMPA president Max E. Youngstein.

Gen. McClure will discuss specific ways in which films are used in the CAD's work.

Rogers Files Countersuit

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 21.—Producer Charles R. Rogers has filed a counter-suit in Superior Court here seeking \$47,185 in alleged damages from Maria Montez, who had sued him for \$100,000 for alleged breach of contract to star her in "Scarlet Feathers." Rogers contends she declined to report for work when he was ready to start production.

Review

"Road House"

(20th Century-Fox)

ANOTHER forceful, high-voltage story of love and vengeance comes from the 20th-Fox studios. "Road House" is a highly effective melodrama with just about all the magic ingredients that insure success at the box-office. The imposing cast is headed by Ida Lupino, Cornel Wilde, Richard Widmark and Celeste Holm. Direction by Jean Negulesco is notable in keeping this tale of criss-crossed love moving fluently and engrossingly.

A mood of tenseness and expectancy envelops the story of Miss Lupino and Wilde who have fallen in love to the resultant displeasure of Widmark, owner of a road house where both are employed. Widmark, rebuffed in his love for Miss Lupino, sets a course of cunningly-devised revenge. He frames Wilde on a robbery charge, and then, through manipulation, has Wilde paroled in his custody.

With Wilde thus in his grip, Widmark proceeds to tighten it sadistically. Events mount to a powerful climax in which Wilde and Miss Lupino try to escape to the freedom of the Canadian border with Widmark in gun-crazed pursuit. In a final melodramatic burst, Miss Lupino shoots him in self-defense.

Outstanding performances are turned in by all. Widmark makes a spidery villain, while Wilde is attractive in his more conventional role. As the road house entertainer, Miss Lupino delivers a couple of songs in deep-throated style, sporting a varied array of gowns. Miss Holm is appealing and sympathetic as the other woman who loves and nobly loses Wilde. Edward Chodorov, who produced, also provided the neat and trim screenplay.

Running time, 95 minutes. Adult audience classification. For November release.

MANDEL HERBSTMAN

Realart Program

(Continued from page 1)

Arctic," "Bombay Clipper," "The Invisible Ray," "The Invisible Woman," "Frankenstein Meets the Wolf Man," "The Mad Ghoul" and "You're a Sweetheart."

Realart's 23 branches will participate in a sales drive to be known as "The Budd Rogers Silver Jubilee Sales Drive" in honor of its distribution vice-president, it was also announced. The campaign will start on Oct. 4 and will end on Feb. 19.

Separate prizes for winner and runner-up of each of the three divisions into which the 23 branches have been divided as well as a special individual exchange prize and a grand prize for the over-all winner will be awarded.

Altec Merges Branches

SEATTLE, Sept. 21.—The Los Angeles office of Altec will absorb the Seattle branch, which will be discontinued. Jack Gregory, Northwest district manager, will go to Los Angeles. Bruce Mewborn, Seattle branch manager, will go to Cincinnati. Change is effective Oct. 1.

RKO Board Convenes

Radio-Keith-Orpheum's board of directors met here yesterday at the downtown office of Atlas Corp. to consider what were later described as "routine matters." Board chairman Floyd B. Odum presided.

Ticket Prices

(Continued from page 1)

opposite trends. In the East there was a one and a third cent increase; Western states showed nearly a two and one-half cent decline.

The survey covered approximately 150 cities, and is described by Audience as being the latest price information available. Until now, latest price data available was for June. A U. S. Bureau of Labor and Statistics survey in 18 cities indicated a price drop in those cities between March and June.

Figures for the major sections of the country follow:

	AUGUST	MARCH
WEST	55.3c	57.7c
EAST	54.1c	52.8c
MID-WEST	47.9c	47.8c
SOUTH	44.7c	45.3c
THE NATION	50.5c	50.4c

The price increase of three-fourths of a cent in large cities was offset by a comparable drop in average prices in small cities and towns.

CITIES	AUGUST	MARCH
Under 10,000	44.1c	44.7c
10,000 to 100,000 ..	49.8c	50.9c
100,000 to 500,000 ..	54.9c	53.7c
Over 500,000	59.8c	59.1c

Salesmen to Weigh

(Continued from page 1)

allowance of one cent per mile additional automobile expense to bring the total for car allowance to approximately six cents a mile. Distributor representatives were reluctant to detail the contract provisions, maintaining that it would be premature to do so since there is always the possibility that the agreement will not be acceptable to the Colosseum convention.

Some 50 delegates from about 30 cities are expected to attend the convention which will be presided over by organization president A. M. Van Dyke.

Seek Variety Trademark

WASHINGTON, Sept. 21.—Application to trademark the barker symbol of Variety Clubs International will be made this week, according to Variety's Nate Golden, who will file the application.

Harry G. Kosch, 66, Pioneer Film Lawyer

Services were held here at the weekend for Harry G. Kosch, 66, pioneer industry lawyer, whose body was found by police in the Hudson River near Tarrytown, N. Y. He had been ill for some time.

At the time of his death Kosch was legally representing several large industrial firms and still represented motion picture interests. In the pioneering days of the film business he was among its top lawyers, representing Sawyer and Lubin, and others, for many years. He was S. and L.'s lawyer when they conceived, built and first operated the Roxy Theatre here, before its sale to Fox Film Corp.

Kosch first became identified with the film industry as co-owner of the old Pilot Studio at Yonkers, producing short subjects for Mutual. Among other larger companies with which he had been associated were Educational and Columbia. He was an incorporator and member of the first law committee of the Hays Organization.

The widow and six children survive.

Martin Rogers, Manager

BALTIMORE, Sept. 21.—Funeral services were held here yesterday for Martin H. Rogers, manager of the McHenry Theatre, who died last Thursday after a heart attack in his office at the McHenry, where he had been stationed for the past 12 years. He was previously employed in a similar capacity at the Circle at Annapolis, Md.

John R. Dillon

(Continued from page 1)

Cathedral here at 10:00 A.M. Interment will follow at Gate of Heaven Cemetery, Valhalla, N. Y.

Surviving are his widow, Marie Treanor Dillon; a daughter, Mrs. Marjorie Pinches, and a son, John, Jr.

Dillon, a partner in Hayden, Stone and Co., prominent for years in 20th-Fox and other motion picture company financing, was elected to the 20th Century board in 1935.

Leo White, 65

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 21.—Funeral services will be held tomorrow for Leo White, 65, Warner contract player for the last 13 years, who died on Monday following a heart attack. The widow, a daughter and two sons survive.

Killed by Thugs


DETROIT, Sept. 21.—Francis Andrews, 25, husband of Mrs. Davis Martin, assistant manager of the Fisher Theatre here, was shot to death by two hold-up men. The assailants were apprehended.

Joel to RKO Post

Appointment of Joe Joel as RKO advertising-publicity director in Australia, has been announced by Ralph Doyle, RKO managing director in Australia. Joel, who will headquarter in Sydney, succeeds Eric Collins.

Guild to Produce

Neptune Films, headed by Robert Montgomery, and the Theatre Guild, Inc., have signed an agreement to produce films. Conferences are now being held to select properties for the first two films.



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RCA Meeting with TESMA's in St. Louis

ST. LOUIS, Sept. 21.—In conjunction with the annual joint convention of the Theatre Equipment and Supply Manufacturers Association and the Theatre Equipment Dealers Protective Association, the theatre equipment section of the RCA engineering products department will conduct sales sessions for all sales representatives of theatre equipment at the New Jefferson Hotel, St. Louis, Sept. 25-27.

More than 100 RCA theatre supply dealers, district sales representatives, and members of the sales division in Camden, will participate in the program. Barton Kreuzer, manager of RCA theatre and film recording activities, and John F. O'Brien, manager of the theatre equipment group, will address the RCA sessions.

Among guest speakers will be: D. H. Dewey, International Seat; John Pollard, Howard D. Wade and J. Archibald, all of Mohawk Carpet Co.; E. Barrington, Westinghouse Lamp; F. L. Slade, Century Electric, and J. H. Kurlander, Westinghouse Lamp.

1st Percentage Suit In K. C. Territory

ST. JOSEPH, Mo., Sept. 21.—James R. Cook has been named defendant in three percentage suits filed here today in U. S. District Court. Suits were brought by Paramount, 20th Century-Fox and Warner.

The complaints are similar to those filed in various other Federal Courts throughout the country, but are the first filed in the Kansas City exchange territory. Involved is the Missouri Theatre, Maryville, Mo.

Attorneys for each plaintiff are Cooper, Neel, Sutherland and Rogers, Kansas City, with Sargoy and Stein of New York of counsel.

Video for India

(Continued from page 1)

there is little prospect of television being introduced in India for "several years," but added that he wished to obtain first-hand knowledge of the new medium now in order to appraise its possibilities for his country.

Sidhwa is a pioneer Indian exhibitor, having opened his first theatre in Rangoon in 1911, a house which he still operates along with two theatres in Bombay, two in Madras, and one each in Calcutta and Bangalore. Most of his clientele is cosmopolitan, rather than native, he said, and prefer American pictures. His theatres devote about 35 weeks annually to Hollywood pictures, he said, and about 17 to British films. Only one of his theatres uses native Indian product.

Business is good in his theatres, Sidhwa reported. He emphasized that his comparison is based on normal pre-war business levels, rather than the inflated attendance of wartime.

"Business is better now than before the war," he said.

Harvey Heads Para. Club

George Harvey, Paramount press book editor, has been elected president of the Paramount Pictures Club for 1948-49, succeeding Monroe Goodman, assistant to Oscar Morgan, short subject sales manager. Other officers elected are Albert Deane, vice-president; Raymond Fisher, treasurer, and Beatrice M. Matal, secretary.

New NBC Code

(Continued from page 1)

ho, where it will be submitted to affiliated stations.

While the new code concerns radio practices specifically, the spirit of the manual will govern television even where the letter of the wording does not apply, Trammell asserted.

Adheres to PCA Principles

Dyke said he is familiar with the Production Code, but added that the NBC document, while not specifically patterned after it, will adhere to the same principles. The restrictions on crime pictures are the only instance where the television programming code will be more rigid than the Production Code.

Dykes said he intends to be particularly watchful of the content of foreign films, and especially those which are not submitted for the PCA seal. He held that video must be governed by the same rules of "good taste and decency that apply to radio and motion pictures."

As Trammell put it, the new code "spells out in positive form" a large number of "good taste" measures which have always been the policy of NBC and which were formally adopted by the National Association of Broadcasters last year.

Code Effective Jan. 1

The NBC code, which is to become effective Jan. 1, limits commercial copy to about one minute, roughly, for every five minutes of a program and directs that no commercials are to be permitted in the middle of any news broadcast, regardless of length. Objectionable material on a broadcast will result in a fade-out of 30 seconds during which time the network will explain to the public the reason for such action. Simulated spot announcements, such as those following the apparent sign-off of a program, are banned. No new giveaway programs will be accepted by NBC until this subject is clarified by the Federal Communications Commission, which has voiced objections to them.

Trammell said that the NBC affiliates will be asked to adopt the code on a voluntary basis, that it is not compulsory. Both he and Dyke, however, declared that advertisers, agencies, performers and affiliates all have been consulted on the matter and all are in apparent agreement on the advisability of its adoption.

'Loop' Decree Test

(Continued from page 1)

vilages on the North Side, and that this seemed to him a deliberate attempt to circumvent the decree. He told Thomas McConnell, attorney for the Jackson Park Theatre, that he could do as he wished insofar as contempt proceedings were concerned.

McConnell said later that if the picture plays on Friday, he will undertake contempt proceedings. The dispute started when the Tivoli outbid other South Side houses by offering a \$3,000 weekly guarantee as against the Jackson Park's flat 35 per cent rental.

B. & K. Over-ruled

CHICAGO, Sept. 21.—Objections to interrogatories filed by Balaban and Katz, defendants in the Monroe Theatre's \$1,050,000 anti-trust suit here, were over-ruled today by Judge John T. Barnes in U. S. District Court.

Meaty Exploitation For UA's 'Red River'

Good taste in film exploitation reached a new high yesterday when Howard LeSieur, United Artists advertising-publicity director, and Al Tamarin, publicity director, sent choice cuts of steak to press representatives as reminders of the opening of Howard Hawks' "Red River" at the Capitol Theatre here. Steaks were identified as "originally a vital part of the cast of the film," feature of which is a cattle drive from Texas to Kansas.

TOA Election

(Continued from page 1)

standing job as the first treasurer of TOA. He put the organization on a firm financial footing in its first year and was instrumental in helping to meet one of the largest budgets ever set by an exhibitor organization.

Pre-convention sentiment here favors the election of either Si Fabian or Samuel Pinanski to the treasurer's post.

Still another officer who has flatly declared himself unavailable is Fred Wehrenberg, whose post as chairman of the board undoubtedly will go to Gamble. Wehrenberg is being mentioned for the post of chairman of the executive committee, now held by Fabian. It is believed Wehrenberg would accept the latter post, particularly in the event that Fabian is elected treasurer.

Indications are that most other posts will be filled by reelecting present occupants. It appears likely that Leonard Goldenson will be reelected first vice-president; that Herman Levy will be renamed general counsel, and that Gael Sullivan will be reappointed director.

In addition, most regional vice-presidents and members of the board are scheduled to be reelected.

Lockwood, who resides in Winsted, Conn., has been prominent in New England exhibition since 1922, and has been continuously active in exhibitor organization affairs there. He served as president of the MPTO of Connecticut from 1926 to 1930, and was reelected in 1939. He was a director and member of the executive committee of the former MPTOA and is a director and regional vice-president of the TOA.

TOA Sets Program

(Continued from page 1)

president of the Chicago Rabbinical Association, and Rev. Leo K. Bishop, regional director of the National Conference of Christians and Jews.

A directors' meeting is scheduled for Thursday afternoon with an open business session, committee meetings and "TOA Night" at the Chicago Railroad Fair set for Friday. A theatre television demonstration at the Esquire Theatre is on the program for Saturday, followed by other business sessions throughout the remainder of the day, to be capped by the president's dinner with George Jessel as master of ceremonies.

John Balaban is general chairman of the convention.

UK Finance Unit

(Continued from page 1)

of the British Embassy in Washington and later economic director of the British War Office.

British independent producers will meet here this evening under the chairmanship of Maurice Ostrer preparatory to meeting tomorrow with Lawrie to discuss financing procedure.

Meanwhile, British-Lion is seeking authority from its stockholders to borrow 2,000,000 pounds (\$8,000,000) from the FFC. The government plans to advance funds only to those producers whose plans are approved by the FFC.

Ostrer was pessimistic about financing possibilities, alleging that conditions, even with government financing, forbid profitable independent operations. In this connection he cited the asking by Rank, Associated British Pictures Corp., and other organizations, of 2,000 pounds (\$8,000) weekly studio rent against the prewar figure of 450 pounds (\$1,800). He cited also increased production costs in general, and said it will be necessary for the government to take steps to reduce working costs in addition to advancing funds.

When FFC is formally registered its members will become its directors.

UA Sets 3 Openings For One Week Here

For the first time in the company's history, United Artists will open three new films in the Metropolitan district here in one week, with "An Innocent Affair," "Red River" and "Texas, Brooklyn and Heaven" all to have local premieres here next week.

"An Innocent Affair" will have its premiere at the Rivoli on Sept. 28; "Red River" will begin its run at the Capitol on Sept. 30, and "Texas, Brooklyn and Heaven" will open on Oct. 1 at the Brooklyn Strand.

Film AAF Vets' Drive

Launching of a nation-wide membership drive to enlist all veterans of the Army Air Force, now associated with the film and allied industries has been announced here by the Show Business Squadron of the Air Forces Association.



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Dean Spencer, recordist, operating the "300" System mounted on a light truck in the field in Alaska.

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Recordist..Dean Spencer **Sound..Western Electric**

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64. NO. 59

NEW YORK, U.S.A., THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1948

TEN CENTS

Field Grosses Hold Up At Key Locations

**\$14,621 Weekly Average;
Income Pace Is Steady**

Theatre grosses continued at a more or less even keel last month, according to box-office reports on some 170 key situations received from MOTION PICTURE DAILY field correspondents. Although August business was very slightly under July's, it was above June's.

Average income for August was \$14,621, compared with \$14,771 in July and \$14,210 in June. Top August week was the second, with an average of \$15,061. Average for August, 1947, was \$16,752.

A record-breaking heat spell which gripped most sections of the country during the latter part of last month was held responsible for substantial drop-offs in grosses at many key cities. Competition at beaches and resorts, on the other hand, increased considerably. "Easter Parade" and "Key Largo"

(Continued on page 6)

Fight Films Bring Increased Business

An appreciable increase in business was reported here yesterday at Times Square theatres showing the blow-by-blow pictures of the Tony Zale-Marcel Cerdan middleweight championship fight Tuesday night at the Roosevelt Stadium in Jersey City. Crowds began congregating in front of the Trans-Lux and Palace theatres early

(Continued on page 2)

MPAA Will Survey Theatre Bi-ennially

A census of motion picture theatres in the U. S. will be made bi-ennially by the Motion Picture Association of America, it was announced here yesterday by Robert W. Chambers, director of the association's Department of Research. The department, which was created by Eric Johnston some two years ago, made public its first survey of theatres earlier this year.

Video Losing Money, Raibourn Tells FCC

WASHINGTON, Sept. 22.—Paramount vice-president Paul Raibourn today told the Federal Communications Commission that television broadcasters are "losing money as fast as it can be lost."

Asked later by reporters whether this included television stations of Paramount subsidiaries, Raibourn laughingly replied: "You don't need to exclude anybody from that statement."

Raibourn testified at the third day of the FCC's hearings on possible television expansion into the upper frequencies. His testimony was a slashing, forthright attack on many of the "sacred cows" that have been worshipped during the earlier days of the hearings.

For instance, he warned the industry that if it left color television "to chance," as it seems inclined, "it will

(Continued on page 6)

430 Involved In Pathe Strike Threat

A threatening strike of some 30 "white collarites" at Pathe Laboratories here was viewed yesterday as being capable of bringing about a full-scale work stoppage involving 400 other workers at the plant. A deadlock in new contract negotiations between Pathe vice-president Nick Trolone and IATSE Motion Picture Home Office Employees Local No. H-63 shows no signs of breaking.

It is expected that if the 30 business office workers walk out, 400 labora-

(Continued on page 2)

Salesmen Win \$8-a-Day On-the-Road Maintenance

Increased on-the-road maintenance has been won by the industry's 1,000 film salesmen along with previously reported salary and automobile expense gains, it was learned here yesterday, in the contract negotiations between 11 distributors and the Coliseum of Motion Picture Salesmen of America.

Maintenance has been increased from seven to eight dollars a day, and is to become effective when the agreement is ratified by the Coliseum's first national convention in Chicago on Oct. 16-17; so will a \$10 weekly wage increase and other contract provisions. Before the war maintenance was six dollars per day; the com-

(Continued on page 2)

Agnew May Handle Films from Abroad

Neil F. Agnew, former president of SRO, who is expected to return from France shortly, is considering entering distribution on his own with a limited number of imports. The project is linked to his intention of spending three or four months a year in France.

Companies Lose Move In Alger Circuit Suit

CHICAGO, Sept. 22.—Federal Judge William Campbell has refused to grant oral argument to the eight distributor plaintiffs in the Alger Circuit percentage suit. The distributors had opposed Judge Campbell's motion of last Friday which suspended their auditing the circuit's books until a separate hearing is granted. The case was referred to master-in-chancery Joseph Elward, who is to decide on the matter of contract legality in licensing agreements.

Won't Seek Reelection By TOA: Goldenson

ABOARD THE 20TH CENTURY LIMITED, Sept. 22.—Leonard H. Goldenson, Paramount executive in charge of theatre operations, stated tonight he will not stand for reelection as first vice-president of Theatre Owners of America because of the pressure of his Paramount duties.

This story was telephoned tonight to MOTION PICTURE DAILY from the 20th Century Limited West-bound to Chicago as it traveled on schedule between Little Falls and Herkimer, N. Y.

To Ask Court Curb Members Of Ascapi: ITOA

**Divest Them of Current
Rights, Group to Propose**

Plaintiff exhibitors in the New York anti-trust suit against the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, in a proposed decree to be filed Sept. 29, will ask the New York Federal Court to order that Ascapi and its members relinquish all theatre-licensing rights on music already synchronized on film.

Attorneys for the plaintiffs reported yesterday that such a decree would relieve exhibitors of any possible risk of copyright infringement action against them while not paying for music rights so long as Ascapi is so constituted and so declared as an illegal theatre collecting agency by the New York court.

Approval of the proposed judgment by the court, if sustained on appeal, would mean that non-paying theatre-men would not be open to suits by

(Continued on page 2)

Realart Plans 35 Releases Annually

Realart will have a continuous program of 35 or 36 releases annually, Budd Rogers, vice-president in charge of distribution, said yesterday as the company's first anniversary sales meeting was concluded at the Hotel Warwick here.

Programs will be drawn from Realart's backlog of over 700 features which it has acquired for re-release and which make it the largest distributing organization of its kind in the world, Rogers said. In its first year Realart sold its top releases to

(Continued on page 6)

Enterprise to Give Up Studio Oct. 3

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 22.—Enterprise will relinquish possession of its studio to Harry Sherman on Oct. 3 under a settlement reached today between the company and Sherman, owner of the studio who leased it at the time of the company's formation. The lease had eight months to go at the time

(Continued on page 6)

Personal Mention

JOSEPH SEIDELMAN, Universal-International foreign operations head, and his wife; **VICTOR SAVILLE**, producer, and **CHESTER MORRIS** and his wife will leave here today for Europe on the *SS Queen Elizabeth*.

PHIL REISMAN, foreign distribution vice-president of RKO, has accepted an invitation to serve on the committee in charge of the Royal Command Film Performance to be held at the Empire Theatre in London on Nov. 29.

E. O. WILSCHKE, operating manager; **R. HILTON**, Chicago district manager, and **BERT SANFORD**, theatrical sales manager, comprise the Altec contingent to the TESMA convention in St. Louis.

J. W. SERVIES, National Theatre Supply district supervisor, and **ARTHUR MEYER**, manager of the company's projection equipment department, will attend the TESMA trade show in St. Louis next week.

CHARLES SKOURAS, National Theatres president, his assistant, **TOM PAGE**, and **PAUL WILLIAM**, Southern California TOA counsel, have flown to Chicago from the Coast for the TOA convention.

JACK BRYSON, **DAVE PALFREYMAN** and **EDWARD CHEYFITZ**, all of the Motion Picture Association of America, will leave Washington today for the TOA convention in Chicago.

H. M. RICHEY, M-G-M exhibitor relations head, left here yesterday for Chicago to attend the TOA convention.

DAVID GOLDING, former British publicity representative for London Films, has returned to the U. S. permanently, from London.

WALTER BRECHER, son of **LEO BRECHER**, New York independent exhibitor, and **MRS. BRECHER**, have become parents of their third child.

W. E. GREEN, National Theatre Supply president, has returned to New York from the Coast.

HARRY GOLD, Howard Hughes Productions executive, arrived here yesterday from Hollywood.

AL ZIMBALIST, Film Classics advertising-publicity director, has returned to New York from Chicago.

GEORGE SIDNEY, M-G-M director, and his wife will leave here tomorrow for the Coast.

WILLIAM D. KELLY, M-G-M home office executive, will return to New York today from a vacation.

ARTHUR JEFFREY, Eagle-Lion exploitation manager, left New York yesterday for Texas.

'Business Approach' Urged by Smakwitz

ALBANY, N. Y., Sept. 22.—"A business approach" in theatre operation is necessary today; "the time has run out for theatres to be operated as stores. The wartime opening-and-shutting-the-door policy is through," Charles A. Smakwitz, Warner zone manager, told managers of 26 WB upstate houses at a meeting yesterday at the Hotel Syracuse, Syracuse.

Managers must go out as businessmen, selling their pictures and merchandising their theatres, Smakwitz declared, adding that the "only successful approach is one of advanced planning for dollar-getting activities and merchandising screen attractions." Fall and winter product and conditions were also discussed.

Other speakers were: Ralph Crabill, Western district manager, Jamestown; Max Friedman, chief buyer-booker; James P. Faughnan, contract manager; Joseph Weinstein, booker, and Gerald Atkin, zone advertising-publicity director.

Fennelly Is Named Monogram Manager

DES MOINES, Sept. 19.—V. M. Fennelly has been named successor to Mayo Beatty, resigned, as manager of the Monogram branch here. Fennelly, promoted from salesman, was associated with Tri-States Theatres and Screen Guild before joining Monogram. Kenneth Weldon, former M-G-M booker, takes over Fennelly's former selling job.

Fight Pictures

(Continued from page 1)

yesterday morning long before doors were opened. Ringside Pictures Corp., producer-distributor of the films, yesterday processed hundreds of prints for air express to all parts of the country.

The picture, running 22 minutes, is a bruising sport spectacle. Sharp audience response was provoked. Photographers of Ringside Pictures did an excellent job as their cameras recorded the cool and methodical way in which Cerdan swarmed all over the spent and confused Zale until the latter finally collapsed at the end of the 11th round.

The film was cut and edited so that the rounds roll by briskly. The final flurry of blows that sent Zale toppling are shown in slow as well as standard motion. The subject also presents some pre-battle and post-battle color.

M. H.

U.J.A. To Cite Cantor On CBS Show Sunday

United Jewish Appeal's 1948 "Humanitarianism" citation will be presented to Eddie Cantor, who has just completed a tour of major cities in behalf of the \$250,000,000 campaign, during a special broadcast on Sunday afternoon over CBS. Samuel Goldwyn, president of the United Jewish Welfare Fund of Los Angeles, will make the presentation.

Ascap Members

(Continued from page 1)

composers who, by the simple expedient of resigning from Ascap, would be free to file infringement action, it is understood.

The plaintiff exhibitors are members of the Independent Theatre Owners Association, president of which is Harry Brandt. Both they and Ascap will submit separate proposed decrees to the court on Sept. 29 which, as a matter of legal course, are supposed to be consistent with the opinion and findings of the New York court.

It is known that scores of theatre-men around the country are holding in reserve those funds which ordinarily would be consigned to Ascap until the entire issue is clarified with the object in mind of paying the rightful collector.

Plaintiffs in the New York case, according to their attorneys, contend that no one is to be paid for the music licensed by Ascap since it has been declared in restraint of trade by the New York court and they will ask the court to so rule. This would not involve public performing rights licensing of future compositions by those now represented by Ascap.

The plaintiffs intend to ask the court to order Ascap out of theatre collecting permanently and to set damages equivalent to all money paid to Ascap since the institution of the suit in 1942, totalling, it is alleged, \$900,000, or three times the actual alleged damages, as allowed under the antitrust laws.

Salesmen Win

(Continued from page 1)

panies raised it a dollar during the war.

Meanwhile, differences over one issue—presumably maintenance—are expected to be settled in Chicago today with Warner and Columbia. The two companies are the only remaining distributors which have not signed a Colosseum agreement.

Penser Names Mayer, Fellerman

Lee Mayer and Harry Fellerman, salesmen here for Warner and Universal, respectively, yesterday were named by New York Colosseum lodge chairman Charles Penser, RKO Radio, to serve as delegates at the Oct. 16-17 national convention. The lodge held a luncheon-meeting here yesterday at the Times Square Hotel.

Pathe Strike Threat

(Continued from page 1)

tory workers and film cutters, who are members of "IA" locals 702 and 771, will refrain from crossing picket lines.

Among companies depending regularly on the facilities of Pathe Laboratories are Universal, Warner Pathe News, RKO Radio and Hollywood producers shooting on location in the East.

SEG Votes Union Shop

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 22.—Screen Extras Guild has voted 2,160 to 62 to continue a union shop. The ballot was taken in a mail referendum required under the Taft-Hartley Law.

Edwards to Supervise 'Macbeth' Roadshows

Appointment of Steve Edwards, Republic's director of advertising, publicity and exploitation, as special representative in charge of roadshow engagements of Orson Welles' "Macbeth" was announced here yesterday by James R. Grainger, executive vice-president in charge of distribution. While Edwards is on special assignment, Milton Silver, his executive assistant, will serve as acting ad director.

Edwards is now supervising the campaign for the world premiere of "Macbeth," which begins its Boston two-day showing on Oct. 7 at the Esquire Theatre. He will leave today for Boston, to remain there until after the premiere.

Long - Service E-K Employees Honored

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Sept. 22.—Thirty-seven Eastman Kodak employees who this year complete 25 or more years with the company are guests of the company here for a three-day program which will wind up tomorrow. The anniversary dinner was held tonight, with Donald McMaster, Kodak vice-president, as principal speaker. In addition to the 37, the affair paid tribute to the 26 employees who mark their 40th year, and 287 who complete their 25th year with E-K.

Record Business for Past Year: Wolff

LONDON, Sept. 22.—RKO business for the past 12 months "has easily beaten" record figures set two years ago, Bob Wolff, U. K. managing director, told an RKO sales conference here this week.

Wolff detailed the company's future policy in Britain. He reviewed RKO's activities since the *ad valorem* tax in August, 1947, and declared that imposition of the tax found the company with a backlog of top pictures.

Picker Shifts Five Loew N. Y. Managers

Film managerial shifts made by Eugene Picker, in charge of Loew New York theatres, include the following: William Carroll, from the Avenue B theatre, to Burland; Buddy Neustein, from Brevoort to the Bedford; John O'Connor, Bedford to Woodside. Larry Stark, acting manager of Loew's Burland, becomes manager of the Brevoort, Brooklyn, and Joseph Stica moved from the Woodside to the Avenue B.

Heads Art Directors

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 22. — J. Russell Spencer has been elected president of the Society of Motion Picture Art Directors, succeeding William Ferrari who was named to the board of directors.

Reelect AFL Unit Officers

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 22.—All officers of the Hollywood AFL Film Council have been reelected.

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"Johnny Belinda"

Warners

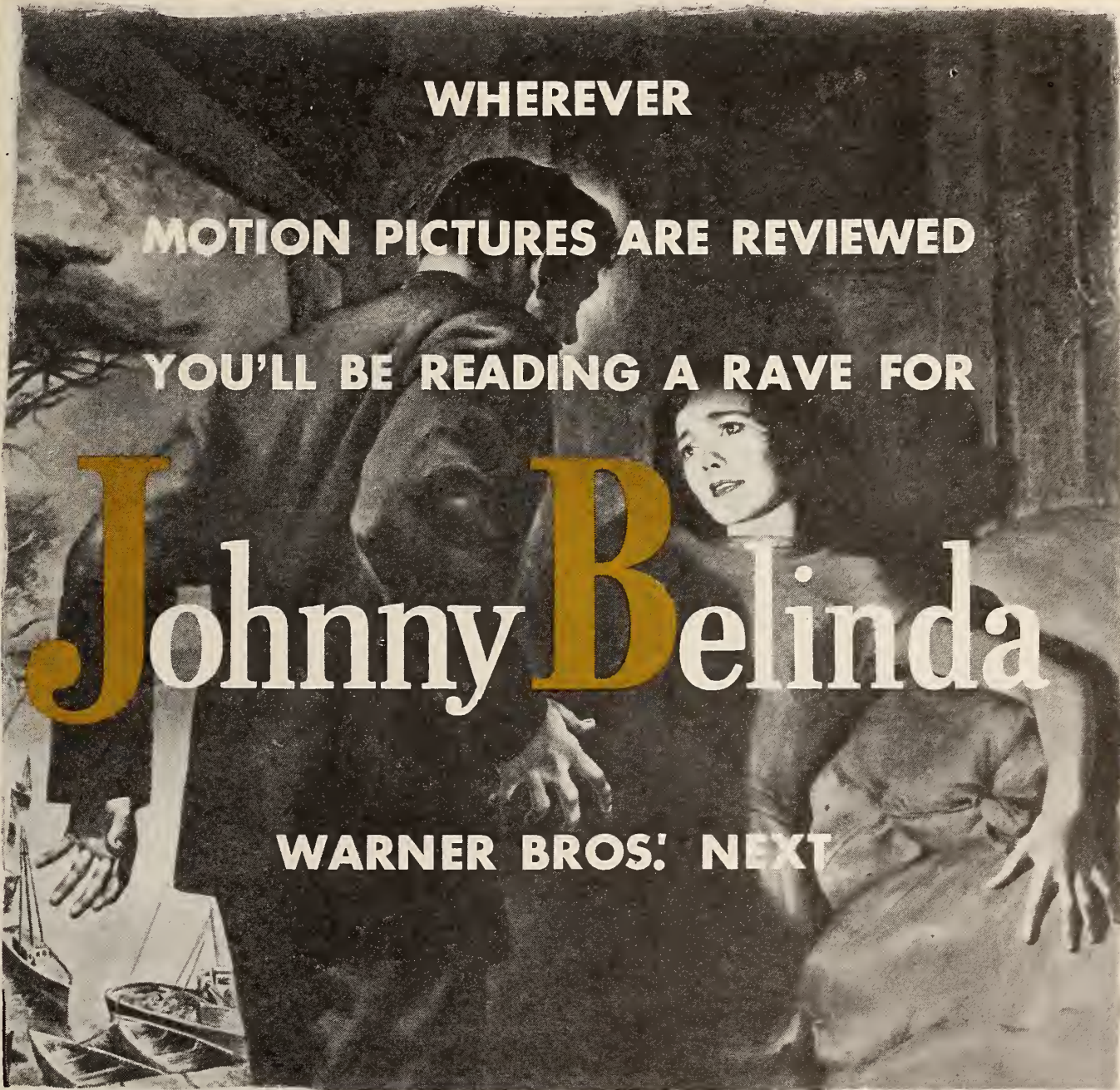
102 Mins.

RICH, PROFOUNDLY MOVING DRAMA. SHOULD GO TO THE TOP OF THE LIST IN '48 INDUSTRY HONORS. WILL BE A LONG REMEMBERED FILM. MAY PROVE A PHENOMENAL TURNING POINT IN ELIMINATING CURRENT TICKETBUYING LETHARGY.

It would be a waste of type, space and time about here to even hazard a guess at the box office potential of "Johnny Belinda." It is going to be remembered a long time by both patron and showman. It's going to be brought back again and again, too. This is one picture that can stand many viewings.

It is rich, profoundly moving drama that has been fashioned in "Johnny Belinda." To watch this story unfold is to experience a series of keen emotional impacts. A superior example of the craftsmanship that goes into making fine films, it may be said for this production that the cinematic medium has again proved itself the superior of the theater. It is with consummate taste and execution that Producer Jerry Wald and Director Jean Negulesco have brought Elmer Harris' stage play to the screen.

In "Johnny Belinda" the industry can take a long, deserved bow for an achievement



JANE WYMAN • LEW AYRES in "JOHNNY BELINDA" with CHARLES BICKFORD

AGNES MOOREHEAD • STEPHEN MCNALLY • directed by JEAN NEGULESCO • produced by JERRY WALD

Screen Play by Irmgard Von Cube and Allen Vincent • From the Stage Play by Elmer Harris • Produced by Harry Wagstaff Gribble • Music by Max Steiner

DIRECTION: Superb.

PHOTOGRAPHY: Brilliant.



One of the most
Amazing Action
Spectacles ever
filmed!

Raging from the
pages of
THE SATURDAY
EVENING POST!



COLUMBIA
PICTURES presents

THE UNTAMED B

STARRING

SONNY

TUFTS

BARBARA

BRITTON

GEORGE "GABBY"

HAYES



The poster features a large, stylized illustration of a bull and a cowboy. The bull is on the left, facing right, with its head lowered. The cowboy is on the right, riding a horse and facing left, with his arms outstretched. The background is a bright red, torn-paper-like texture. The text is in a bold, sans-serif font.

**MIGHTY OUTLAW
STALLION FIGHTS
GIANT BRAHMA
BULL!**

REED

in CINECOLOR

with

EDGAR BUCHANAN · WILLIAM BISHOP

Screenplay by Tom Reed

Based upon a **SATURDAY EVENING POST** Story by Eli Colter

Directed by

Produced by

CHARLES LAMONT · HARRY JOE BROWN



Production Steady, With 28 Filming

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 22.—The production index stands at 28, gaining one from last week. Work started on seven new films, while six were completed.

Shooting started on "When a Man's a Man" (Windsor), Allied Artists; "Air Hostess" and "Desert Vigilante," Columbia; "File 649—State Department" (Neufeld), Film Classics; "Headin' for Trouble," Monogram; "Too Late for Tears" (Stromberg), United Artists; "Flamingo Road," Warner.

Shooting finished on "Little Women" and "Take Me Out to the Ball Game," Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer; "The Heiress" (Wyler), Paramount; "Thunder in the Pines" (Lippert), Screen Guild; "Canadian Pacific" (Nat Holt), 20th Century-Fox; "Outpost in Morocco" (Moroccan), United Artists.

Astor To Produce 3 Pictures in Italy

Deal for the production of three pictures to be made in Italy with F. H. Fodor as producer was completed in Hollywood with Fodor and Dr. Alexis Pantaleoni by Robert M. Savini, Astor Pictures president, it was announced here by Savini. "Children of the Sun," "Pocahontas" and "Danger Point" are the pictures involved, according to Savini, who has returned to New York after a 10-week stay on the Coast. In addition, a deal is pending to acquire the screenplay or an original opera based on Shakespeare's "As You Like It," which would be the fourth film to be made in Italy, Savini said. American casts and directors will be used in the films to be made abroad, he added.

'Miss Tatlock' Given 'B' Rating by Legion

Paramount's "Miss Tatlock's Millions" was given a "B" classification by the National Legion of Decency in its review of seven more pictures. Rated A-I were: Screen Guild's "Jungle Goddess" and Columbia's "Walk a Crooked Mile." Classified A-II were: 20th Century-Fox's "Apartment for Peggy," Eagle-Lion's "Hollow Triumph" and "Lady at Midnight," and Continental Films' "Pagliacci" (Italian).

Maria Van Slyke to E-L

Appointment of Maria Van Slyke as Eagle-Lion national magazine contact was announced here by Max E. Youngstein, advertising and publicity vice-president. Miss Van Slyke, who replaces Marie Slate, will start in her new post on Oct. 1. She previously was associated with Paramount, 20th Century-Fox, and Universal-International.

A.A. To Host Editors

Lloyd Nolan, who co-stars with Audie Murphy in "Bad Boy," which is being sponsored by Variety Clubs International, will be guest of honor here today at an Allied Artists' reception for fan magazine editors.

David Bursten Transfers

David Bursten, industry attorney formerly associated with the law office of William B. Jaffe, has joined the legal firm of Paine, Kramer and Marx, New York.

Field Grosses Holding Up

(Continued from page 1)

stood out last month among leading grossers. Other films which appeared frequently as better-than-average performers were: "The Babe Ruth Story," "Mr. Blandings Builds His Dream House," "The Fuller Brush Man," "So Evil My Love," "Abbott and Costello Meet Frankenstein," "The Paradine Case" and "Life With Father."

Registering strongly toward the end of the month when they bowed

into a number of key houses were: "Good Sam," "Luxury Liner" and "Pitfall," while coming through with good performances from time to time during the month were: "Canon City," "Melody Time," "The Best Years of Our Lives," "The Walls of Jericho" and "The Time of Your Life."

Composite key city box-office reports for 1948 to date, compared with corresponding weeks of last year, follow:

1948 Week Ending	No. of Theatres	Total Gross	Average Per Theatre	1947 Week Ending	No. of Theatres	Total Gross	Average Per Theatre
Jan. 2-3	179	\$3,406,600	\$19,031	Jan. 3-4	167	\$3,678,100	\$22,024
Jan. 9-10	168	3,112,700	18,528	Jan. 10-11	173	3,363,200	19,400
Jan. 16-17	168	2,473,300	14,722	Jan. 17-18	173	3,007,300	17,383
Jan. 23-24	166	2,419,000	14,572	Jan. 24-25	176	3,043,700	17,294
Jan. 30-31	166	2,341,900	14,108	Jan. 3-Feb. 1	181	2,293,600	18,197
Feb. 6-7	167	2,537,800	15,196	Feb. 7-8	177	3,089,600	17,495
Feb. 13-14	166	2,381,500	14,546	Feb. 14-15	177	2,767,900	15,638
Feb. 20-21	164	2,316,500	14,125	Feb. 21-22	182	3,042,700	16,718
Feb. 27-28	167	2,734,100	16,372	Feb. 28-Mar. 1	166	2,800,300	16,869
Mar. 5-6	165	2,372,700	14,380	Mar. 7-8	178	2,906,400	16,328
Mar. 12-13	165	2,441,800	14,799	Mar. 14-15	174	2,890,300	16,610
Mar. 19-20	175	2,626,800	15,010	Mar. 21-22	173	2,922,900	16,895
Mar. 26-27	162	2,356,800	14,548	Mar. 28-29	178	3,069,500	17,245
April 2-3	171	2,953,500	17,272	April 4-5	179	2,838,800	15,859
April 9-10	169	2,740,000	16,213	April 11-12	184	2,233,500	17,606
April 16-17	175	2,493,600	14,249	April 18-19	177	2,973,400	16,798
April 23-24	167	2,284,000	13,677	April 25-26	183	2,917,900	15,945
April 30-May 1	159	2,232,300	14,040	May 2-3	177	2,699,800	15,253
May 7-8	167	2,416,500	14,470	May 9-10	175	2,578,100	15,732
May 14-15	167	2,301,200	13,780	May 16-17	176	2,650,400	15,059
May 21-22	149	2,118,300	14,217	May 23-24	169	2,369,100	14,018
May 28-29	158	2,241,100	14,184	May 30-31	173	2,590,100	14,972
June 4-5	166	2,577,400	15,527	June 6-7	178	2,834,800	15,926
June 11-12	172	2,287,800	13,304	June 13-14	165	2,511,700	15,222
June 18-19	176	2,340,300	13,297	June 20-21	170	2,579,400	15,173
June 25-26	170	2,396,500	14,092	June 27-28	174	2,557,000	14,695
July 2-3	167	2,476,300	14,828	July 4-5	163	2,507,300	15,382
July 9-10	161	2,499,000	15,522	July 11-12	169	2,734,800	16,182
July 16-17	170	2,418,900	14,229	July 18-19	174	2,555,900	14,689
July 23-24	172	2,577,800	14,987	July 25-26	156	2,561,700	16,421
July 30-31	170	2,438,600	14,345	Aug. 1-2	160	2,511,500	15,696
Aug. 6-7	173	2,482,800	14,351	Aug. 8-9	166	2,612,700	15,742
Aug. 13-14	171	2,575,500	15,061	Aug. 15-16	164	2,622,300	15,989
Aug. 20-21	175	2,577,800	14,730	Aug. 22-23	170	2,931,800	17,246
Aug. 27-28	166	2,430,400	14,641	Aug. 29-30	164	2,786,700	16,992
Sept. 3-4	172	2,463,500	14,323	Sept. 5-6	159	2,829,000	17,792

Realart Plans

(Continued from page 1)

as many as 6,000 to 7,000 theatres and smaller programs to between 4,000 and 5,000 theatres, according to Rogers.

The sales meeting achieved closer relations between Realart's national coverage through its 22 franchise holders and effected smoother operating plans, Rogers reported. A continuous flow of releases was set up, assuring both franchise holders and exhibitors of a dependable supply of box-office attractions, the release of which will be keyed to their timeliness, he said.

A permanent advertising budget is under consideration by the company for the department headed by William Schulman, advertising-publicity director.

S. S. Krellberg, New York-Buffalo-Albany franchise holder, on behalf of the meeting presented Rogers with a motion picture camera at a luncheon yesterday, attended by trade press representatives.

Enterprise

(Continued from page 1)

Enterprise suspended production on Sept. 13.

Enterprise, whose plans for resuming production are still undecided, will rent office space at the studio.

Expressing satisfaction with the settlement which frees him of a commitment to produce for Enterprise, Sherman said he will now re-enter production for release by a major company to be announced shortly.

Psychology Society Analyzes Para. Film

WASHINGTON, Sept. 22.—Paramount's "The Night Has a Thousand Eyes," starring Edward G. Robinson and dealing with extra-sensory perception, got a going-over tonight from experts. A Paramount contingent, headed by vice-president Paul Raibourn, gave a special screening of the film for the Para-Psychology Society, local group devoted to the study of extra-sensory perception. The showing of the film was followed by discussion of the picture's treatment of the new science, led by Dr. J. B. Rhine of Duke University, outstanding experimenter in the field.

Stack Promotes Gill

LONDON, Sept. 22.—William Gill, Manchester representative for Warner Brothers, has been promoted to a head office post here by Charles P. Stack, general sales manager. Gill will be acting London branch manager while at the head office.

Capra to UNESCO Meet

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 22.—Frank Capra, Paramount producer-director, will leave tomorrow for Boston to attend a meeting next Sunday and Monday of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

Rebuilding Omaha House

OMAHA, Sept. 22.—Closed by the Fire Department, the Cass Theatre here will be rebuilt and reopened by Donald Herring of Paramount, Cal. It is expected to open this fall.

20th Asks Ruling In Walbrook Suit

WASHINGTON, Sept. 22.—Twentieth Century-Fox today asked Federal Court here for a summary judgment or dismissal of a suit by the Walbrook Theatre of Baltimore to keep 20th-Fox from giving half its first neighborhood run product to the competing Windsor Theatre.

Fox agreed to do this in an out-of-court settlement of a treble-damage suit by the Windsor against Fox and other distributors. Walbrook's request for a preliminary injunction to block the agreement was thrown out by Judge Letts last week, and 20th-Fox was told to submit proposed findings and order on the matter of a temporary injunction.

These are still to be filed, but in the meantime, the firm came through with this new motion for dismissing the suit altogether, and possibly even getting a summary judgment that the agreement does not violate the law, thus removing all possible future suits.

Jackson Pk. Granted Day-Date on 'Affair'

CHICAGO, Sept. 22.—Paramount today granted the Jackson Park Theatre day-and-date playing time, starting Friday, for "A Foreign Affair," with the Balaban and Katz Tivoli.

The concession was granted as a result of Judge Igoe's refusal yesterday to concede to Paramount's motion to play the film at the Tivoli for an exclusive South Side showing.

Video Losing Money

(Continued from page 1)

wake up to find the new band as crowded as the present one."

He said he thought two stations per city were enough—one in the present band, one in the ultra-high frequencies.

Raibourn insisted that the need for additional channels was great and pressing, and that the only way the need could be met was by using the upper frequencies, and declared that all properly qualified parties should be permitted to operate stations in both the present band and the upper band "provided there is no un-economic utilization of these higher bands through a duplication of the same programs over both stations."

Col., Parks in Deal

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 22.—Columbia and Larry Parks have signed a new contract under which the star will appear in pictures both for Columbia and for his own company. Parks will star in "Jolson Sings Again," which will go into production on Oct. 18. The old pact had been the subject of litigation.

Abbott, Costello Re-sign

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 22.—William Goetz, Universal-International production executive, has announced that the company has exercised a term option on Abbott and Costello for the comedians to appear in two pictures in the coming season, their ninth year with the studio.

Nelson in Fruit Business

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 22.—Donald Nelson, former president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, will return to Los Angeles Oct. 1 as executive vice-president of Mission Pact, shipper of fruits.

Accurate
Concise
and
Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

FIRST
COPY IN
REMOVE
FILM
NEWS

MR. JOYCE O'HARA,
MOTION PICTURE ASSOC. OF
AMERICA,
28 WEST 44TH ST., 21ST FL.
NEW YORK, N. Y.

64. NO. 60

NEW YORK, U.S.A., FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1948

TEN CENTS

Balaban Flays SOPEG On 'Red' Issue

Challenges Union Heads To Sign Taft Affidavits

Barney Balaban, president of Paramount, yesterday informed the Screen Office and Professional Employees Guild (CIO) in a strongly worded letter that the company will maintain its position against dealing with SOPEG, "whatever the cost," until the union's officers swear they are not Communists.

Said Balaban: "We shall not deal with a union that protects those who may not dare to run the risk of signing a non-Communist affidavit." Six other distributors have taken a similar attitude toward SOPEG.

Balaban's letter, which he termed "an emphatic reaffirmation of our position," was addressed to SOPEG
(Continued on page 2)

Boston Trust Suit Filed

BOSTON, Sept. 23.—Three operators of a theatre circuit filed a \$1,000,000 damage suit in U. S. District Court here today against 19 distributors, and others.

The plaintiffs, Abraham and Samuel Garbose of Gardner, and Jacob Garbose of Athol, charged the companies with violating the anti-trust act by allegedly preventing them from exhibiting certain films until a considerable time after they had been shown at theatres owned or operated by the defendants.

An injunction to restrain the de-
(Continued on page 2)

Warner Executives At Coast Meeting

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 23.—A product planning session of top Warner executives will begin Monday at the company's Burbank studio and also to blueprint merchandising of new productions.

Albert Warner, Samuel Schneider, Ben Kalmenson, general sales manager; Harry Kalmine, general manager of Warner Theatres, and Mort Blumenstock, advertising - publicity chief, will arrive here Monday to meet with Harry M. and Jack L. Warner.

Martin Quigley's Third of a Century Anniversary

By SHERWIN KANE

WITH the current issue of *Motion Picture Herald*, out today, Martin Quigley completes a Third of a Century as editor and publisher of industry journals. The *Herald* of today, elder of the Quigley Publications, is the lineal descendant of that first journal which he founded in Chicago in 1915 and named the *Exhibitors' Herald*.

There was significance in the name he gave to his first publication. The nickelodeon of exhibition's early days was on the way out, giving way to the more comfortable and inviting film theatre. Meanwhile, programs of one- and two-reel films were being challenged by the still unproved feature-length picture.

In that period of change, the exhibitor with his increasing investments in the new type family theatre and the type of program it would offer had need of and warranted a more authoritative and effective voice in the industry which was vitally astir and growing.



Fabian Bachrach
MARTIN QUIGLEY

There was, too, on Quigley's part an awareness of the gradually emerging industry pattern of an interdependent production, distribution and exhibition. His publication was to serve that integrated industry a-coming as well as to provide a proper forum for the theatre owner whose swiftly developing import as the point of contact for the industry with the public and as the purchasing agent for its entertainment was soon to become a fact apparent to all.

It was the year of D. W. Griffith's "Birth of a Nation".

It was a time in which the names of Cecil B. DeMille, Jesse L. Lasky, Mary Pickford and Charlie Chaplin were establishing star significance in production, on the screen and in the minds of the ticket buyers. The industry's great star period was under way.

▲ ▲ ▲ In its second year, 1916, *Exhibitors' Herald* acquired and merged *Motography*, a pioneer weekly of the industry.

The industry press, apart from *The Herald*, then consisted for the most part of the *Moving Picture World* and *Motion Picture News*, neither of which appeared to concede at the time that the operators of converted halls and stores, or even the builders of the first motion picture theatres, were a permanent, integrated unit of the swiftly changing industry.

The family theatre continued to become more numerous, more comfortable, even luxurious. Keeping pace with the trend, Quigley inaugurated *Better Theatres* in 1923. It was a special section published every four weeks, devoted exclusively to the physical theatre, its design, equipment and operation. It became immediately a

(Continued on page 3)

TOA to Leave Charity Aid to Unit Decision

Board Nominates Slate On Eve of Convention

By RED KANN

CHICAGO, Sept. 23. — Theatre Owners of America today turned its back on national charity drives when its board of directors decided it will be up to local units to participate on a territorial basis if they so elect. However, TOA's screening committee, which passes on the acceptability of films for charitable purposes, was maintained and will recommend such films for showing without further commitment.

The directors, who will resume at eight A.M. tomorrow on the head of the first business session, tonight also discussed the Ascapi situation, which
(Continued on page 6)

\$1,709,807 'U' Deficit

Consolidated net loss of \$1,709,807 for the nine months ended July 31 was disclosed here yesterday by Universal Pictures. This compares with a net profit of \$2,470,167 for the corresponding period of the preceding year. Both totals are after all charges including Federal income taxes.

At the same time, J. Cheever Cowdin, chairman of the board, and Nate J. Blumberg, president, announced that because of "unsettled conditions" the board of directors has decided to omit payment of the regular quarterly dividend on common stock.

Scully Will Preside At U-I Meet Today

The single national sales convention idea can no longer be effective because it does not enable sales executives to intimately discuss local problems with branch managers and salesmen, declared William A. Scully, Universal-International sales vice-president, here yesterday on the eve of the opening, today, of the first of four U-I 1948-49 regionals, at the Hotel Waldorf-Astoria. Scully will preside. Also attending from the home office will be A. J. O'Keefe, E. T. Gomersall, Fred
(Continued on page 2)

Personal Mention

CHARLES REAGAN, Paramount distribution vice-president, was in Chicago yesterday en route to South Bend. He will be in Indianapolis Sunday when his parents observe their 55th wedding anniversary.

MILTON KUSELL, Selznick Releasing Organization sales vice-president, and **PAUL MACNAMARA**, Selznick advertising-publicity vice-president, are in Chicago from New York for the TOA convention.

JACK LEEWOOD, Screen Guild advertising-publicity director, who was scheduled to leave the Coast for New York this week, has postponed his trip indefinitely.

BEN FISH, special representative and brother of **SAMUEL GOLDWYN**, was in Boston yesterday from the Coast.

JACK GRANARA, RKO Radio studio representative, was in Boston yesterday from Hollywood.

B. G. KRANZE, Film Classics sales vice-president, returned to New York yesterday from the Coast.

LEWIS BLUMBERG, assistant sales manager of Prestige Pictures, is on a sales trip to Chicago and Milwaukee.

RUSSELL HOLMAN, Paramount Eastern production head, will leave here by plane Sunday for the Coast.

\$499,000 Dividends Paid by Film Firms

WASHINGTON, Sept. 23.—Publicly-reported cash dividends of film firms totaled \$499,000 in August, compared to \$2,327,000 last August, the Commerce Department reported here today. A Commerce official said the drop was due to the fact that the report showed no dividend for the Stanley Co. this August; its annual dividend, usually reported in August, is about \$1,800,000. Last year Commerce reported \$541,000 in August without Stanley.

Publicly-reported cash film dividends for the first eight months totaled \$26,812,000, compared with \$33,295,000 for the comparable 1947 period.

MPIC Analyzes Opinion

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 23.—A study of how people form opinions about the film industry and what can be done to change adverse opinions has been completed by the Motion Picture Industry Council. Dore Schary, chairman of the Council, has called a meeting of the organization for Sept. 28 for a discussion of the study.

Rodeo To Fete Press

A reception for the trade press will be held at Madison Square Garden here on Monday afternoon in connection with the annual rodeo which will start here that day with Gene Autry as top star.

Patronage Cut 30% By Video: Raibourn

Characterizing television as "the greatest cultural, educational and entertainment medium of the future," Paul Raibourn, Paramount vice-president, declared here yesterday that film patronage decreases 20 to 30 per cent when the American family acquires a television receiver.

Raibourn, who returned to New York yesterday from Washington, spoke at a round-table meeting of the National Industrial Conference Board at the Waldorf-Astoria.

He predicted that the decline in demand for motion pictures and other entertainment media will level off to show only an eight to 10 per cent decrease after five years when, at the current rate of production of television sets, the "saturation" point for video will have been reached.

Emphasizing that motion pictures and radio are "probably closer to the ultimate consumer than any other business represented here," Raibourn told the National Industrial Conference Board that the current inflation is beginning to cause a cessation of spending in these low-priced entertainment fields.

"That is the kind of effect you would expect in sensible people," he declared. "So I have great hopes our inflation is going to be managed by the people more perfectly than anyone in Washington would be able to manage it."

Boston Trust Suit

(Continued from page 1)

fendants from allegedly engaging in block booking and blind buying practices also was asked by the plaintiffs.

Defendants named were Paramount, Loew's, 20th Century-Fox Film, Warner, RKO Radio, United Artists, Universal, Columbia, Republic, Monogram, and theatre-operating subsidiaries in New England.

Mass for Guild Founder

An Anniversary Mass will be offered this morning at 10 o'clock in the Actors Chapel of St. Malachy's Church here in commemoration of the 25th anniversary of the death of the Reverend John Talbot Smith, who founded the Catholic Actors Guild. Father de Leon, Guild chaplain, will celebrate the Mass.

Film Folk at Air Meet

Forty-two Hollywood personalities, including Bob Hope, Jack Warner, Hal Roach, Paul Lukas, Bebe Daniels, Ben Lyon, Mark Stevens and Melvyn Douglas, arrived here last night to represent the film industry at the three-day Air Force reunion and convention, being held through tomorrow.

Johnston at SMPE Meet

Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association of America, has accepted an invitation from the Society of Motion Picture Engineers to address the opening luncheon of its semi-annual convention in Washington on Oct. 25.

Balaban to SOPEG

(Continued from page 1)

president Sidney Young in reply to two letters in which the latter charged that the company delivered "an ultimatum that compliance with Taft-Hartley is a pre-condition to negotiations" and that management was raising "red herrings."

"You are the ones who draw a 'red herring' between us when you assert that the issue is your demands," Balaban countered. "If ever there were a time for each of us to stand up and be counted, this is it! Why should any American hesitate to stand up and state, 'I am not a member of the Communist Party and I'm glad to swear to it!' What opprobrium is there involved in the act of signing an affidavit that one is not an agent of a foreign government? What is this incredible attitude?" Balaban asked again, "that stills the tongue and stays the hand from enlisting on the side of democracy?"

"The Communist Party and its adherents are bad for our country and bad for our industry," Balaban wrote, adding that "We propose to exercise every legal right to keep them out of our affairs." Balaban concluded his letter with an expression of hope that "through the democratic process, the members of SOPEG will exercise their democratic right to change their minds and clear the way for amicable collective bargaining in a spirit of mutual confidence."

SOPEG's contracts with Paramount and the six other distributors expire on Monday.

W.B., Col. Settle on Pact with Colosseum

CHICAGO, Sept. 23.—Final agreement was reached here yesterday by Warners and Columbia with the Colosseum of Motion Picture Salesmen at a conference to iron out a one-point difference. Nine other distributors had previously settled upon contract terms with the Colosseum. Ratification of the entire contract will probably be effected at the national convention of the Colosseum Oct. 16-17.

U-I Meeting Today

(Continued from page 1)

Meyers, F. J. A. McCarthy, C. J. Feldman, Maurice Bergman, and others.

Second meeting will be at the Terrace Plaza Hotel, Cincinnati, Tuesday and Wednesday, to be followed by a Chicago meeting at the Hotel Blackstone, next Friday and Saturday, and a final meeting at the Fairmount Hotel, San Francisco, Oct. 7-8.

Seidelman to Conduct U-I Branch Meetings in Europe

Regional sales meetings will be conducted by Universal-International foreign operations head Joseph H. Seidelman in Europe. He sailed for the Continent yesterday.

Additionally, a Latin American conference will be held in November. Robert Lury, Eastern supervisor for U-I, will come to New York from Singapore, and Herbert Tonks, Far Eastern supervisor, is flying to Australia from Manila for sales talks.

Industry Joins Drive For Israel Red Cross

Nine industry representatives here attended a luncheon yesterday in the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel to arrange for a dinner to be held at the same location on Nov. 22 for fund-raising in behalf of Red Mogen David (Palestine Red Cross).

Present from the industry were: Malcolm Kingsberg, Manny Frisch, Sam Rinzler, Max A. Cohen, Sam Rosen, Fred J. Schwartz, Sol Straussberg, David Weinstock and E. J. Brandt.

Athletes See E-L Film

A special preview of Eagle-Lion's "The Olympic Games of 1948" was held at the Gotham Theatre here yesterday for 70 Olympic athletes. Prior to the screening a ceremony was held at Columbus Circle, where they were presented with scrolls from Manhattan borough president Hugh Rogers.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
GARY COOPER • ANN SHERIDAN
in **LEO McCAREY'S**
"GOOD SAM"
A Rainbow Productions, Inc. Picture
Released by RKO Radio Pictures
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

Barbara Stanwyck
Burt Lancaster
in **"SORRY, WRONG NUMBER"**
A Paramount Release
PARAMOUNT
TIMES SQUARE
MIDNIGHT FEATURE
WIGHTLY

ROSALIND RUSSELL
in
"THE VELVET TOUCH"
A FREDERICK BRISSON PRODUCTION
Released through RKO
RIVOLI B'way & 49th St.

RKO presents
LORETTA WILLIAM ROBERT
YOUNG HOLDEN MITCHUM
in
"RACHEL and the STRANGER"
Brand's **MAYFAIR** 7th Ave. & 47th St.

TYRONE POWER, ANNE BAXTER
"THE LUCK OF THE IRISH"
A 20th Century-Fox Picture
ON VARIETY STAGE
Ed Sullivan & Harvest Moon Ball Winners
Joe Howard - Al Bernie - Illinois Jacquet
On Ice Stage - "SYMPHONETTE on ICE"
Starring **ARNOLD SHODA**
ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

Martin Quigley's Third of a Century Anniversary

(Continued from page 1)

the post for exhibition, not to mention new specialists in theatre architecture, as the change-over to larger and better theatres continued apace, carrying with it new problems, new discoveries and the identification, through experience, of mistakes made as the way was being charted.

It performed an equally valuable function and service within a few years thereafter when sound displaced the silent film and again the physical theatre needed to be re-adapted along still other uncharted lines.

▲▲▲ In the midst of that period, in 1928, the *Exhibitors' Herald* acquired and merged the *Moving Picture World*, its distinguished contemporary and one of the first journals of the industry.

The Herald thereupon became the *Exhibitors' Herald-World*.

In the following year, 1929, Quigley established the *Motion Picture Almanac*, today's internationally accepted statistical annual of the industry.

In 1930, *MOTION PICTURE DAILY* came into being through the acquisition by Quigley of *Exhibitors Daily Review* and *Motion Pictures Today*, and the reconstitution of that publication.

Early in 1931, Quigley acquired a third pioneer industry weekly, *Motion Picture News*, and merged it with *Exhibitors' Herald-World* to form *Motion Picture Herald*.

Fame, the statistical talent annual, was established in 1933. It appraises from year to year the leading box office personalities of motion pictures, radio and television.

In 1946 the *World Market* section of *The Herald* was founded as an annual organ of service to international distribution, exhibition and production, confronted with their vast, new problems arising from disordered economics left in the wake of World War II.

In 1947, *Theatre Sales* was established as a special monthly section of *The Herald* to serve the expanding refreshment sales operations of the nation's theatres.

Over the Third of a Century since the appearance in 1915 of that first *Herald*, the policy and purpose of Quigley Publications have continued steadfastly.

Quigley espoused at the outset the cause of morally responsible entertainment for the whole family, both as a sound business principle for motion pictures and as a bulwark against censorship. He also opposed use of the screen for propaganda.

It is of interest to note that in 1915, his first year as editor and publisher of *The Herald*, Quigley wrote:

"The public mind throughout the length and breadth of the United States has been so aroused by agitation incident to the censorship question that people everywhere who are interested in the motion picture either as a business or as a form of pleasure are increasingly demanding that pictures be made clean and wholesome to the last detail. . . ."

Over the intervening Third of a Century since that first appeared in print, the columns of Quigley Publications have repeated it with varying forms of emphasis and address related to the particular problems of the times.

During a period of grave potentialities in 1929, when the industry was being called to account for the content of its films, Quigley originated the Production Code and worked ceaselessly for its adoption by the organized industry in Hollywood and New York.

Testimonial to the success of his efforts is paid in the Third of a

Anniversary Issue of Motion Picture Herald

The current issue of *Motion Picture Herald* devotes extensive attention to Martin Quigley's Third of a Century Anniversary. Highlights of the period from 1915 to 1948 are recalled in word and picture.

Contents of the section include:

A chronicle of the period by Terry Ramsaye, editor of *Motion Picture Herald*, with introductory note by Martin Quigley;

Pictures from the *Herald* files of a Third of a Century ago and through the intervening years;

Martin Quigley's selection of the pictures he liked best from 1915 to 1948, chosen year by year;

Anniversary messages to Quigley from various sources.

Excerpts from editorials by Quigley, 1915 to 1948;

"In Retrospect — 1915 to 1948", by Martin Quigley;

"Martin Quigley's Third of a Century", editorial by Terry Ramsaye;

What today's leaders of the industry were doing 33 years ago, by Red Kann;

Branch managers and salesmen 33 years in the industry;

A chronology of Quigley Publications, their origin and development, is presented.

"Exhibitor Voices", informal messages from small town and neighborhood exhibitors with special address to *The Herald* and its "What the Picture Did for Me" department, have come from all corners of the country to the pages of the Anniversary issue.

Resolutions by the Motion Picture Association of America and the Association of Motion Picture Producers, Hollywood, on the occasion of Martin Quigley's Third of a Century Anniversary, are published.

And special articles by William R. Weaver, Q. P. Hollywood editor; George Schutz, editor of *Better Theatres*; Peter Burnup, Q. P. London editor, and Walter Brooks, director of the Managers' Round Table section of *Motion Picture Herald*.

Century anniversary issue of *The Herald* by the Motion Picture Association of America and the Motion Picture Producers Association.

▲▲▲ The Code Seal on the screen today signalizes the good intent, the awareness of responsibility and accountability to the public of every producer whose pictures have earned it.

Quigley's assistance in the drafting of the industry Advertising Code likewise has been recognized. His editorial policy did not end with the championing of decency in film content. It called, as well, for good taste and honesty in advertising the picture to the public. To that end, the Advertising Code and its enforcement are applied within the organized industry.

In Martin Quigley's Third of a Century as recorder, observer and adviser, the industry, ever changing and growing, has come to maturity. It has passed, with varying experience, through two World Wars, a bitter world depression, through physical and technological change, the competitive awareness of new entertainment forms, a decade of government litigation against the industry, up to today's waning period of internal economic readjustment and reappraisal.

The policies upon which *The Herald* was founded in 1915 have been rigorously pursued all the while.

They are as pertinent — and as sound — today as then.

20th
CENTURY-FOX

invites the entire industry

With the most important national convention in its history completed . . . the entire personnel of the company that leads the entire industry* is ready to do the most important job in its history!



THE SNAKE PIT

Darryl F. Zanuck Presents OLIVIA de HAVILLAND in "THE SNAKE PIT" also Starring MARK STEVENS and LEO GENN with Celeste Holm • Glenn Langan and Helen Craig, Leif Erickson, Beulah Bondi Lee Patrick, Howard Freeman, Katherine Locke, Natalie Schafer, Frank Conroy, Ruth Donnelly, Minna Gombell • Directed by ANATOLE LITVAK • Produced by ANATOLE LITVAK and ROBERT BASSLER Screen Play by Frank Partos and Millen Brand • Based on the Novel by Mary Jane Ward



WHEN MY BABY SMILES AT ME

Color by TECHNICOLOR

BETTY GRABLE • DAN DAILEY in "WHEN MY BABY SMILES AT ME" • Color by TECHNICOLOR • With JACK OAKIE, JUNE HAVOC, RICHARD ARLEN, JAMES GLEASON • Directed by WALTER LANG Produced by GEORGE JESSEL • Screen Play by LAMAR TROTTI • Adaptation by Elizabeth Reinhardt • From a Play by George Manker Watters and Arthur Hopkins • Lyrics and Music: "By The Way" "What Did I Do?" by Mack Gordon and Josef Myrow • Dances Staged by Seymour Felix and Kenny Williams



UNFAITHFULLY YOURS

REX HARRISON • LINDA DARNELL RUDY VALLEE • BARBARA LAWRENCE in "UNFAITHFULLY YOURS" with Kurt Kreuger, Lionel Stander, Edgar Kennedy, Alan Bridge, Julius Tannen, Torben Meyer An Original Screen Play Written, Directed and Produced by PRESTON STURGES



YELLOW SKY

GREGORY PECK • ANNE BAXTER RICHARD WIDMARK in "YELLOW SKY" with Robert Arthur, John Russell, Henry Morgan, James Barton, Charles Kemper Directed by WILLIAM A. WELLMAN Produced by LAMAR TROTTI • Screenplay by Lamar Trotti • Based on a Story by W. R. Burnett

* More Champions than any other company on Motion Picture Herald's list of Boxoffice Champions . . . the only

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SKOURAS

35th Anniversary
Celebration

SEPT. 26 to DEC. 25
INCLUSIVE



CRY OF THE CITY

"CRY OF THE CITY" Starring VICTOR MATURE • RICHARD CONTE with Fred Clark, Shelley Winters, Betty Garde, Berry Kroeger, Tommy Cook, Debra Paget, Hape Emersan, Roland Winters, Walter Baldwin
Directed by ROBERT SIODMAK • Produced by SOL C. SIEGEL • Screen Play by Richard Murphy • From a Novel by Henry Edward Helseth



APARTMENT FOR PEGGY

Color by TECHNICOLOR

JEANNE CRAIN • WILLIAM HOLDEN and EDMUND GWENN in "APARTMENT FOR PEGGY" • Color by TECHNICOLOR • With Gene Lockhart, Griff Barnett, Randy Stuart
Directed and Written for the Screen by GEORGE SEATON • Produced by WILLIAM PERLBERG • From a Story by Faith Baldwin



ROAD HOUSE

IDA LUPINO • CORNEL WILDE • CELESTE HOLM • RICHARD WIDMARK in "ROAD HOUSE" with O. Z. Whitehead, Robert Kames, George Beranger, Ian MacDonald, Grandon Rhodes • Directed by JEAN NEGULESCO • Produced by EDWARD CHODOROV • Screen Play by Edward Chodorov • Story by Margaret Gruen and Oscar Saul



Company to make the list every month to date in '48... more hits than any other company on Variety's Scoreboard!

TOA

(Continued from page 1)

will now go to the TOA legal advisory council for study and submission of its findings to the convention on Saturday.

The organization's budget for next year was reviewed but not completed.

Paul MacNamara, Selznick advertising and publicity director, will outline a public relations plan to the directors tomorrow, after which it will be referred to the committee on public relations and may eventually reach the convention floor.

Lockwood to Head TOA

Arthur H. Lockwood of Winsted, Conn., will be TOA's new president, succeeding Ted R. Gamble of Portland, Ore., who will become chairman of the board. Fred Wehrenberg of St. Louis will be named honorary chairman of the board, while Nat Williams of Rome, Ga., will succeed Leonard H. Goldenson of New York as first vice-president. Morris Loewenstein of Oklahoma City will continue as secretary, Charles P. Skouras as treasurer, and Herman Levy of New Haven as general counsel. Once again S. H. Fabian of New York will head the executive committee, the personnel of which is to continue unchanged.

Returned to their current posts as well will be Sam Pinanski of Boston and J. J. O'Leary of Scranton as heads of the finance committee. All regional vice-presidents similarly will continue, except Lockwood who will be replaced by Albert Pickus of Stratford, Conn.

This slate was determined by the board of directors and, while the convention itself will not cast its vote until Saturday, the line-up will stand.

Balaban, Skouras to Speak

The two-day convention officially gets under way at the Drake Hotel with a morning session tomorrow to be followed by lunch at which Barney Balaban, president of Paramount, and Spyros P. Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox, will speak. Balaban is due by plane tomorrow morning while Skouras arrived from New York tonight.

There will be no general session in the afternoon when six committees which have been assigned their topics will meet individually and prepare their reports for the consideration of the full convention Saturday morning. On the theory the interest of the attending exhibitors will be the better sustained, no single convention chairman will preside. Thus, Fabian will be chairman at one session, Claude Mundo of Arkansas at another, Roy Cooper of San Francisco a third, Edward Zorn of Illinois a fourth, and probably Myron Blank of Des Moines a fifth. Gael Sullivan, executive director of TOA, whose first convention this is, will preside at a sixth.

Wright Talk Off-the-record

The Department of Justice's views on the legality of booking and buying combines is expected to be canvassed with frankness tomorrow afternoon when Robert Wright, Assistant Attorney General, who has been prosecuting the Government's case against the majors, will talk off-the-record before attorneys of various TOA units. The discussion finds its genesis in the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers' suit against Cooperative Theatres of Michigan and United Detroit Theatres.

Attorneys of various TOA territori-

Reviews

"The Return of Wildfire"

(Lippert-Screen Guild)

"THE RETURN OF WILDFIRE" is a better-than-average Western despite its modest budget. Part of its success is due to the direction of Ray Taylor, who added touches of romance not usually found in this type of fare; part is due to the cast, which includes Richard Arlen, Patricia Morrison, Mary Beth Hughes and Chris-Pin Martin, and part to excellent outdoor photography by Ernie Miller. It was produced in Sepiatone by Carl K. Hittleman for Robert L. Lippert Productions.

As for the screenplay itself, written by Betty Burbridge and Hittleman, it has been treated many times. Arlen is the wandering cowboy who arrives at a ranch owned by two pretty sisters, who are in the process of being swindled by Reed Hadley, an unscrupulous trader trying to corner a horse market. Eventually he and his cronies are exposed and the ranch is saved for the girls.

As a secondary theme there is "Wildfire," a spirited horse who leads a wild herd. Ranchers capture him, but turn him loose when it is found that he cannot be tamed. In supporting roles are James Millican and Holly Bane.

Running time, 80 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Sept. 27.

"Moonrise"

(Republic)

DANE CLARK, Ethel Barrymore and Gail Russell are the top "names" in a competently-staged story about a young man in the Virginia swamp country who detaches himself from society because his father had been executed as a murderer. The "back-country" settings are strikingly effective and each character blends in with rare accuracy.

The Frank Borzage production is a "mood" picture, and though a commendable departure from the usual, a few light touches might have registered with effect. It is relentlessly somber, generous with philosophical conversation. That it manages to unfold at a fairly lively pace, despite its heavy-weight dramatics, is indeed a tribute to Borzage's direction. Above all, "Moonrise" has a good deal of interest.

Clark, victim of all sorts of frustrations, considers himself an outsider, is constantly belligerent, and winds up murdering an antagonist. His love for Miss Russell, and his grandmother's, Miss Barrymore's, counsel combine to make him face the future realistically, and he surrenders to sheriff Allyn Joslyn.

Charles Haas produced and wrote the screenplay, from the novel by Theodore Strauss. David Street sings "The Moonrise Song." Others in the cast are Rex Ingram, Henry Morgan, Selena Royle and Harry Carey, Jr.

Running time, 90 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Oct. 1.

al units are banded together in what is known as the legal advisory council. From 15 to 20 will be on hand to hear Wright and to seek answers to the many perplexing questions confronting them relative to the status of booking and buying combines in the Government's view.

Wright will also address the general convention on Saturday at a closed meeting.

TOA committees and their chairmen are as follows: Lockwood, television; Blank, 16mm. competition; Earl Hudson of Detroit, public relations; A. Julian Brylawski of Washington, legislation; Levy, legal aspects; Paul Williams of Los Angeles, exhibitor-distributor relations, and Sullivan, film transportation.

The organization reported that "Youth Month" has been so successful that the National Conference on Prevention and Control of Juvenile Delinquency has asked it to consider establishing the movement on an annual basis.

Direct reservations clocked by TOA late today totaled approximately 397 without counting exhibitors of the Chicago area. Others are arriving hourly for what TOA officials stated will swell the final figure to 475 or, perhaps, slightly more.

UTOI Holds Meeting on Municipal Tax Action

By JIMMY ASCHER

CHICAGO, Sept. 23.—Illinois theatre-men, in town for the Theatre Owners of America convention, met today to discuss plans for proposed action they

will take to alleviate the burden of municipal taxes on theatres. Edward Zorn, president of United Theatre Owners of Illinois, asserted that "something must be done about these cities, towns and villages" which feel they can tax what they want.

Anderson Heads ITO Caravan Committee

COLUMBUS, O., Sept. 23.—Allied Caravan committee of the Independent Theatre Owners of Ohio has been announced by P. J. Wood, ITO secretary, as follows: Chairman, Urban Anderson, owner of the Ohio, at Uhrichsville; Jack Armstrong, Glazel Theatre, Bowling Green; Jerry Anderson, Union, Richwood; E. L. Biggio, Grand, Steubenville; Frank Slavik, Capitol, Mt. Gilead; H. L. Russell, Russell, Millersburg; Leo T. Jones, Star Theatre, Upper Sandusky.

Extend Deardourff Area

CLEVELAND, Sept. 23.—Charles C. Deardourff, M-G-M exploiter covering Cleveland and Detroit, has taken over Pittsburgh as added territory, relieving J. E. Watson to cover Cincinnati and Indianapolis. Harold Marshall, former Indianapolis exploiter, resigned.

Edris Sells to Newman

SEATTLE, Sept. 23.—William Edris has leased the Roxy Theatre in Ballard to Frank L. Newman, Jr., for 19 years. Edris acquired the Roxy when he took over the Jensen and Von Herberg interests.

Films Figure in Berlin's 'Cold War'

By H. ZU LOEWENSTEIN

BERLIN, Sept. 16 (By Airmail).—In the "cold war" here between the East and West the motion picture is assuming increased importance, with the Reds especially stressing propaganda.

Ilja Trauberg, the Russian director, has been elected to the board of the Soviet-licensed DEFA, producing in the Soviet zone. Although the title of the first feature which he will produce for the company has not yet been announced, it is known that it will deal with some aspect of the current political situation.

"A Town Helps Itself" is the title of the latest DEFA documentary. It deals with the reconstruction of Chemnitz in Saxony, in the Soviet zone. The DEFA documentary, "Warning and Obligation," is dedicated to the "victims of fascism." Again, another propaganda picture, "Bridges to the Future," emphasizes the "unity of Germany" from the Soviet angle.

DEFA's new feature, "Grube Morgenrot," is pure and not too subtle Communist propaganda. It deals with the life of a coal miner and advocates Socialism as the cure for all evils.

Latest figures show that 13 production companies have been licensed in the U. S. zone; 10 in the British; five in the French, and two in the Russian.

Norway Reduces Theatre Tax 5%

OSLO, Sept. 16 (By Airmail).—The Norwegian Congress has approved lower taxes for cinemas in Norway. The five per cent drop lowered taxes from 40 per cent to 35 per cent (on foreign films). This means an extra income of nearly 2,500,000 kroner (about \$500,000) for Norwegian theatres annually.

Siritzky Acquires 12

Twelve new French pictures have been acquired for release here this year by Siritzky International. Included in the group are: Sacha Guitry's "Private Life of an Actor," now showing at the Elysee Theatre here; Marcel Pagnol's "Caesar" and "Angelo"; "Foolish Husbands" and "Angel in the Night."

Canadian Exports Rise

OTTAWA, Sept. 23.—Exports of films from Canada increased in July to \$456,000 from \$339,000 in July a year ago and advanced to \$2,557,000 for the first seven months of 1948, against \$1,977,000 in the corresponding period last year, it is reported.



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MEMBER FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

Accurate
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MOTION PICTURE DAILY

FIRST
IN
FILM
NEWS

V-64. NO. 61

NEW YORK, U.S.A., MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 1948

TEN CENTS

'U' to Reduce Clearances, States Scully

Intended to Liquidate Product More Rapidly

Contending that the play-off of pictures has not kept pace with the drastic changes of the past few years in production, individual picture costs and the greater inventories required by changes in distribution methods, William A. Scully, sales vice-president of Universal Pictures, announced at the weekend in the first of a series of regional sales meetings that Universal will scrutinize the current clearance patterns and move forward on a plan for more aggressive and rapid liquidation of pictures, shortening clearances.

The meetings, which were held at the Hotel Waldorf-Astoria, New York, Friday through Sunday, will be
(Continued on page 3)

WB Filming At New Peak

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 26.—Prescribing "the work treatment" as the only possible cure for the American industry's ailments, executive producer Jack L. Warner today announced a record fourth-quarter filming schedule that will give Warner's studios a 1948 production total 25 per cent higher than 1947.

Warner said he has assigned eight producers to 26 properties for early
(Continued on page 3)

NJ Allied to Weigh Smith Plan Today

New Jersey Allied's board of directors will take the 20th Century-Fox Andy W. Smith, Jr., exhibitor-distributor conciliation plan to the organization's membership at a special meeting to be held today at the Newark Athletic Club, Newark. Since the New Jersey board has approved the
(Continued on page 3)

Canadian Building More Than Double

Ottawa, Sept. 26. — The Canadian government reports that a nationwide survey shows the total value of theatre construction in the past year advanced sharply to \$9,005,355, including \$8,150,823 for new buildings and \$854,532 for alterations, compared with total of \$3,332,616 in the previous year.

Columbia Dividend Omitted by Board

Columbia Pictures issued the following statement on Friday: "The board of directors announced that although tentative figures for the year ended June 30 showed a net profit, nevertheless because of unsettled conditions now prevailing in the industry, particularly with respect to foreign operations, it has deemed it desirable to take no action on the payment of a cash dividend on its common stock at this time."

FC's Kranze Elevates Abelson, Rosenberg

B. G. Kranze, sales vice-president of Film Classics, has promoted Bob Abelson, Los Angeles branch manager, to district manager with supervision over Los Angeles, San Francisco, Denver and Salt Lake City, replacing Sam Wheeler, who resigned.

TESMA-TEDPA Launch Biggest Exhibit Meeting

(Convention Program and Map of Exhibits Appear on Page 4)

ST. LOUIS, Sept. 26.—The third joint convention and exhibit of the Theatre Equipment and Supply Manufacturers Association and the Theatre Equipment Dealers Protective Association which opens at the Jefferson Hotel here tomorrow promises to be the largest in attendance and exhibits and of the greatest interest and value to exhibitors.

In addition to completely new equipment and supplies of all kinds for the modern theatre, exhibits at this year's show include every variety of drive-in theatre essentials, large screen television, vending equipment and the lat-

1,000 HOUSES FACE DIVESTING: WRIGHT

Para., 20th-Fox Set Domestic Mart as Target

By JIMMY ASCHER

CHICAGO, Sept. 26.—Paramount and 20th Century-Fox have completely discounted the European market as a source of significant revenue for the next decade, Spyros P. Skouras told the Theatre Owners of America convention on Friday following an address in which Barney Balaban painted a pessimistic picture of the industry's current status both domestically and overseas.

"We're not going to regain the European market," added Skouras, who thereafter struck out forcefully for self-containment within United States borders.

The 20th-Fox president described Balaban's analysis as "a profound survey of conditions in our industry."

The day has passed when exhibitors can isolate themselves from the problems of distributors, and vice versa,
(Continued on page 2)

Tells TOA Justice Dept. Knows No Other Way To Restore Competition

By RED KANN

CHICAGO, Sept. 26. — Robert L. Wright, who has been prosecuting the Government cases against the industry for the Department of Justice, told the Theatre Owners of America at its final session yesterday that he anticipates the major defendants will be divested of 1,000 theatres now held under joint ownership, by the time the long-standing litigation is cleared up.

"Divestiture will be a long, difficult process. If anyone knows a better way of increasing competition, we'd like to know what it is. So far, no one has offered any other remedy and we know of no other," he declared.

Wright, here by TOA invitation, took the position the Supreme Court decision narrowed down essentially to the question of "How much theatre divestiture?" and, in this connection, gave it as his opinion that the decision has ordered that divorcement be wide. Even on the basis of dissolution to the extent of 1,000 houses, however, he added, the ensuing problem then would be how to restore competition in the industry because after divorcement the "Big Five" would continue to have the largest circuits.

He took the position the problem facing the Department of Justice was how to create competition among dis-
(Continued on page 2)

\$268,215 in Dues Collected by TOA

CHICAGO, Sept. 26.—Twenty-eight exhibitor associations affiliated with Theatre Owners of America, aggregating 3,944 theatres seating a combined 3,205,502, paid \$268,215 in dues in the year ending Sept. 18, 1948, according to a report made by Charles P. Skouras, treasurer.

The Southern California Theatre Owners Association led the list with \$25,230 representing 282 theatres seating 272,568. The national average was
(Continued on page 2)

Special TESMA-TEDPA Section, Pages 3-7

Personal Mention

RUBE JACKTER, Columbia assistant general sales manager, returns to New York today following a two-week tour of company exchanges.

HENDERSON M. RICHEY, M-G-M exhibitor relations head, will visit St. Louis and Kansas City this week. He returns to the home office Oct. 1.

FREDERICK BRISSON, executive producer of Independent Artists, arrived in Hollywood from New York yesterday.

FRED HIFT of *Motion Picture Herald* editorial staff, left here at the weekend for a two-week Hollywood vacation.

SID BLUMENSTOCK, 20th Century-Fox assistant exploitation manager, left here yesterday for Detroit.

Public Relations Plan Gets TOA Nod

CHICAGO, Sept. 26.—An industry-wide public relations plan developed by Paul MacNamara, Selznick director of advertising and publicity, was endorsed by TOA Saturday. It calls for formation of an organization called the Office of Motion Picture Information and Advertising to operate on an annual budget of \$2,000,000 which MacNamara figured could be raised if producers and exhibitors agreed to contribute two and one-half per cent of their yearly advertising expenditures, estimated by him at \$80,000,000 to \$90,000,000.

MacNamara also proposed a new code governing studio publicity, ruling out references to multiple marriages, gambling, drinking and Communism, and establishment of machinery which would quickly and systematically protest harmful references to the industry.

Wright to TOA

(Continued from page 1)

tributors, and described as "the proper remedy" the establishment of processes which would set up competition among distributors as well. Wright saw no solution to the problem of high film rentals unless this were done and thus argued divorcement of distribution from exhibition was required.

On a question, he acknowledged circumstances under which franchises would be admissible, in his opinion, in order to allow an independent theatre threatened on film supplies to offset a competitor who has an assured supply by virtue of an affiliation with one of the major circuits through joint stock ownership.

Fred Wehrenberg inquired about the possibility of a consent decree. "Trade press talk," replied Wright. "I know

of no concrete proposals since the Supreme Court decision was handed down." While he said there was no injunction specifically prohibiting major circuits from expanding their theatre holdings, the Assistant Attorney General took the position any major would be "foolish" to do so until proper provisions in this connection were finally drawn. On another question, he said he doubted if compulsory arbitration was possible and reminded that the courts already had suggested a method of voluntary arbitration would be held desirable.

Urges Planned Tax Fight

Morris Loewenstein, in reporting on tax problems, urged a planned opposition to unfair taxation through the political awareness on the part of exhibitors.

Charles P. Skouras, who reported on "Youth Month" activities, also lined up behind Barney Balaban's analysis of industry conditions and declared exhibitors will have to learn to be content with less profits.

Earl J. Hudson, speaking on public relations, recommended expansion of these operations, appointment of a permanent director and continued showing of films supporting local drives as a public service function. The organization will support a series of 12 one-reel subjects produced by various guilds and studios on a small film rental basis to support the TOA treasury.

Arthur H. Lockwood, in a report on television, urged establishment of a theatre television distribution system to make available to theatres exclusively special events of wide interest. This might take the form of a co-operative or private corporation. Exhibitors were also advised to consider entering the television broadcasting station business, while distributors will be urged to discontinue releasing films of any character for video broadcasts.

A system of conciliation and mediation at the exchange level which, it was felt, would reduce the tide of litigation, was recommended by Paul Williams in a report on exhibitor-distributor relations.

Wayne Coy, chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, pointed out that exhibitors were getting a break on television in that present channel allocations are limited. This, he said, would mean fewer people staying at home. However, he predicted that motion pictures brought into the home on a wholesale scale by way of television is inevitable.

Board's Slate Is Elected

The slate of officers for TOA as predetermined by the board of directors was elected formally at the final session, and last evening was marked by the concluding dinner at which Lockwood, newly elected president, struck out for a progressive, affirmative trade association.

Joining the problems of producers and distributors with those of exhibitors, Lockwood asserted they must be faced and met jointly.

He favored formation of an industry tribunal to adjudicate differences without recourse to litigation and urged a clearing-house for the exchange of information on box-office performance of product for the benefit of the TOA membership.

Domestic Mart

(Continued from page 1)

Balaban said. Making a forceful bid for "One Industry," paraphrasing of Wendell Willkie's "One World" appeal, Balaban presented to the gathering a comprehensive analysis of the domestic and foreign problems which have dogged the industry in recent years—problems which, he pointed out, have "altered the very nature of our business."

The time has come when the problems of exhibitors and distributors have serious repercussions on each other, Balaban declared. "We delude ourselves," he said, "if we cling to the false notion that the other man's headaches are no concern of ours."

Repercussions Affect All

Referring to "the wave of litigation which has engulfed us in recent years," and the changes which such court actions threaten, Balaban said: "You can't knock the props out from under a vital segment of industry and expect it to be the same as it always has been. Somewhere along the line, people are going to get hurt if it collapses."

"If distribution is sick, then exhibition cannot expect to remain healthy. Many of you remember the days when most of the distribution companies were on the rocks heading for disaster. There were plenty of exhibitors who were rocking in the same boat. It could happen again," Balaban admonished.

He reviewed his disappointments over the crises which faced the industry in Britain. "It is my fervent hope that reason will triumph over nationalist interests," he added, "and that the happy relationship which has existed for so many years will endure far into the future."

Swinging from foreign to domestic problems, Skouras scored all distributors for "their laxity" in permitting drive-ins to buy their films "for nothing."

Foresees Upswing in Grosses

He also dealt briefly with television, foreseeing a momentary adjustment and perhaps a radical shock for theatres which are caught unprepared. In the long view, however, he forecast an increase in theatre grosses of two to three times over current levels once large-screen television is in national operation.

At the first business session Friday, S. H. Fabian of New York made the flat statement that so many problems now bedevil the industry exhibitors may find this their last convention unless they genuinely determine to pull together.

Marcus Cohn, formerly on the legal staff of the Federal Communications Commission, charged exhibitors with "supreme neglect" in failing to obtain their share of the limited available television outlets. Only 15 per cent of the applicants seeking channels include motion picture interests, he declared in an analysis which created

Gamble Urges Code For Industry Unity

CHICAGO, Sept. 26.—Theatre Owners of America's pledge to confer and work with any group within the industry in the direction of an industry "code of fair business operation" was vigorously renewed by Ted R. Gamble, first president and one of the prime movers in the formation of the organization, at the convention here at the weekend.

Discussing the Government's antitrust suit against Paramount, et al., Gamble warned that re-consideration of the case in New York Federal Court may result "in a decree presenting new problems for exhibition." To this he added: "Now hopefully it might be wished that another tremendous gamble with our business at pawn might be averted by the establishment of a code of fair business operation, a code considering the rights of all and subject to court approval and to amendment and modification as needed."

He placed considerable stress on the Ascap situation and sought to make capital of the switch in the attitude of New York ITOA as outlined in Thursday's airmail edition of *MOTION PICTURE DAILY* which reached the convention in time for Gamble to note the story and make direct reference to it.

\$268,215 in Dues

(Continued from page 1)

eight and seven-tenths cents per seat.

Disbursements in the period totaled \$191,604, leaving a balance of \$76,611. Expense incidental to the organization's "Youth Month" campaign ran to \$30,406. Robert W. Coyne, retired executive director, was paid \$49,647 and Herman M. Levy, general counsel, \$15,000. Gael Sullivan, Coyne's successor, was paid \$6,250 for June, July and August which sets his remuneration at approximately \$25,000 annually.

Cost of the public relations campaign under Earl J. Hudson was \$12,086.

the impression he believed exhibition had missed the bus.

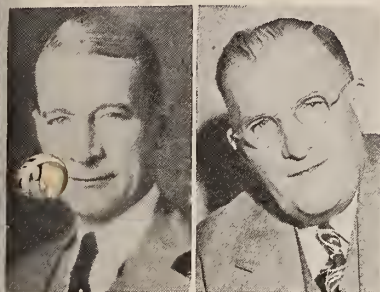
In his address, Gael Sullivan, executive director, stressed the rising tide of video by pointing out RCA alone is manufacturing receivers at the rate of 50,000 monthly. He cited this situation, taxation, censorship, public relations and litigation as problems emphasizing exhibitor need for a strong national organization.

Guest speaker Edward H. Foley, Under-Secretary of the Treasury, lauded the cooperation of the TOA membership for its wartime cooperation, characterizing it as an "indispensable element" in the success of the Government's financial operations.

Discussing such present problems as inflation, Foley called upon TOA as "a sympathetic and influential segment of industry" to help us "get our story across to the public." More than any other group, I know you understand public opinion—how to shape and guide it," he added.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone Circle 7-3100. Cable address: "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo J. Sullivan, Vice-President and Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; Gus H. Fausel, Production Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 120 South La Salle Street, Editorial and Advertising. Urban Farley, Advertising Representative; Jimmy Ascher, Editorial Representative. Washington, J. A. Otten, National Press Club, Washington, D. C. London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1. Hope Burnup, Manager, Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; Theatre Sales; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, \$6 in the Americas and \$12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

They Lead Dealers And Manufacturers



Oscar Neu
TESMA President

Ray Colvin
TEDPA President

TESMA-TEDPA

(Continued from page 1)

members of our association," he said. Boomer expressed appreciation of the cooperation and assistance received from convention and exhibit committees, from the trade press and from Ray Colvin, TEDPA president.

In a pre-convention message, Colvin also expressed his appreciation of the assistance given by the convention committees, the equipment dealers and manufacturers and the trade press.

"Such teamwork," he said, "adds up to only one total, a bigger and better convention than ever before."

Oscar F. Neu, TESMA president, hailed the convention as "topping anything we have ever held before both for the attendance, representative of all branches of our industry and for

Show Over 100 Exhibits Of Equipment, Supplies

St. Louis, Sept. 26.—Final touches have been put on the big exhibit of motion picture theatre equipment and supplies at the conventions of the Theatre Equipment and Supply Manufacturers Association and Theatre Equipment Dealers Protective Association at the Hotel Jefferson here, starting tomorrow.

Ray G. Colvin of St. Louis, TEDPA president, said the pageant of 1948-49 theatre equipment will fill the block-long mezzanine and two other rooms of the Jefferson. One hundred manufacturers are on the exhibitors' list which was prepared at preliminary meetings attended by Colvin and Roy Boomer, Chicago, TESMA secretary.

The trade show will be climaxed by number and variety of manufacturers' products displayed.

Neu said that \$75,000,000 is spent annually for the equipping and maintenance of the nation's 16,880 theatres, apart from the rapidly growing drive-in field with its hundreds of theatres. He cautioned exhibitors to consider placing orders for needed equipment now to avoid the consequences of rising materials and labor costs to manufacturers.

Neu said that unavoidable delays in delivery of orders by manufacturers inevitably can be traced to shortages of steel and other essentials, but that every effort is made to overcome such obstacles. "Our records show," he

said, "that few important theatre openings have ever been postponed as a result of such delays. In fact, any theatre opening receives the first consideration of our members."

William A. Gedris, TESMA vice-president, and J. Eldon Peek, vice-president of TEDPA, expressed their gratification over both the record attendance and exhibits and the efforts of the many members of both associations which made them possible. A convention registration in excess of 1,000 appeared likely today.

Next year's convention will be held at the Stevens Hotel, Chicago, Sept. 23-28. Present officers of both TESMA and TEDPA will continue

have certain theatres played after another, and just as soon as that certain theatre has been purchased by an exhibitor who has several other theatres, that certain theatre is moved into a different playing position; and how many times have availabilities in certain theatres been changed because the exhibitor who has had clearance over some specified theatre obtained something he wanted for waiving this clearance, which is nothing more than using our product to gain something for himself?" Scully declared.

plan, it is expected that the membership will do likewise; however, the board's decision is "not irrevocable."

If the membership is willing to "go along" with the plan for settling possible differences between Jersey Allied members and 20th Century-Fox, of which Smith is general sales manager, a committee to supervise a "survey of complaints" will be named by organization president Edward Lachman.

Smith Will Discuss Plan Before ITOA Board Here

Andy W. Smith, Jr., general sales manager of 20th Century-Fox, will discuss the details of the 20th Century-Fox conciliation plan for the settlement of exhibitor-distributor disputes at a meeting of the board of directors of the Independent Theatre Owners Association of New York to be held on Thursday at the Hotel Astor here. The ITOA has already expressed approval of the principles involved in the plan.

TESMA Mentors For Third Meeting



W. A. Gedris
TESMA Vice-Pres.

Roy Boomer
TESMA Sec.-Treas.

in office until then, both associations having elected their slates last year for two-year terms. Efforts are being made to get a national exhibitor organization to hold its 1949 convention in Chicago concurrently.

TESMA's membership increased to 115 during the past year with the addition of 20 new members.

Highlights among the new drive-in exhibits is the first model of a concession car on wheels for drive-ins, designed and built by the Calumet Coach Co., Chicago. Also on display is a new drive-in construction design originated by Dr. H. P. Ratoff of Rialto, Cal.

Fred Wehrenberg, honorary board chairman of Theatre Owners of America, and retiring head of the MPTO of St. Louis, is sponsoring a luncheon tomorrow for 150 exhibitors in attendance at the convention of his organization, also in session here.

Sopeg Assails Para. As 7 Pacts Expire

Holding in a letter addressed at the weekend to Paramount president Barney Balaban that "the law gives Paramount no right to refuse to negotiate with our union," Sidney Young, president of Screen Office and Professional Employees Guild (CIO), reiterated his earlier charge that the company is "attempting to coerce us into subverting (Constitutional) rights" by refusing to "do business" with SOPEG until its officers comply with the non-Communist affidavit provisions of the Taft-Hartley Law.

Young's letter was sent in reply to one in which Balaban took a diametrically opposite view of the situation and expressed the hope that the union's officers would change their minds and file the affidavit.

Young maintained that the "issue is not Communism but plain Americanism." He cited SOPEG's record "for being law-abiding," said management in other industries have signed with non-complying unions, called upon the company "to cease seeking to evade your obligation to meet the pressing economic needs of Paramount employees because of the absence of legal compulsions to your doing so."

SPG Strategy Parley Today; Pacts Expire

Screen Publicists Guild this evening will hold its first full-scale strategy meeting in connection with nine distributors' rejection of the union because it refused to comply with the non-Communist affidavit provisions of the Taft-Hartley Law. Meeting will take place at the Holland House here.

To Reduce Clearances

(Continued from page 1)

followed by conferences in Cincinnati, Chicago and San Francisco.

In advising the conference of Universal's new policy, Scully states that the present method of distributing of the past 30 years "is hampered considerably by clearance and availability, some of which is unreasonable, but mostly perpetuated merely by custom," Scully said.

"Today it is necessary that we have our pictures played in all important situations as early as possible. We do not believe it should be necessary for a distributor to invest \$1,000,000 or \$2,000,000 in a picture and have to wait two years to realize his investment.

"The clearance and availability of pictures is ours to give and not the exhibitor to tell us what he wants.

"It is our problem today to do everything possible to eliminate unreasonable clearance so that the people of America will be able to see our pictures while they are fresh in everyone's mind.

"We spend a great deal on national advertising. The benefits of extensive advertising and exploitation are lost when pictures are delayed in reaching the public because of improper clearance and availability.

"Large town operations have clearance of anywhere from 30 to 60 days and the same exhibitor, operating in one large town of 500,000 population, would have a 30-day clearance over subsequent theatres and, in another large town of the same population, this exhibitor would have only a 14 or 21-day clearance.

"How many times in this business

plan, it is expected that the membership will do likewise; however, the board's decision is "not irrevocable."

NJ Allied, Smith Plan

(Continued from page 1)

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WB Filming

(Continued from page 1)

filming. Nine will be started before Jan. 1.

"Hollywood has been suffering from a lot of mental ills caused by indecision, inertia and plain fear," said Warner. "The work treatment is the only possible cure. It can be as effective as industry leaders and their creative workers want to make it. Most of the bugaboos we have been setting up are excuses for not making pictures. We still have an important domestic market, as the returns for good pictures prove," and "there still is a world market, although the returns have been sharply curtailed by the tying up of our dollars in many foreign countries.

"While the freezing of dollar assets has hit the industry hard, I believe there is too much talk about boycotts and restrictions and not enough energy devoted to making the kind of pictures that will maintain our world leadership. The foreign situation," Warner added, "is difficult, but the best way to meet it is to increase the quality of our product to the point where it out-distances competition."

"We've already made more pictures in 1948 than in all of 1947," Warner said.

Warren William, 53

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 26.—Warren William, 53, veteran film actor, died here Friday after an illness of 10 months. He came to Hollywood from the stage in 1932. Surviving is the widow Helen.

EXHIBIT DIRECTORY OF THE 1948 TESMA TRADE SHOW

... and Program of the Tesma-Tedpa dual convention at the Jefferson Hotel in St. Louis

Sunday, September 26

9:00 A. M.—Registration opens: Mezzanine floor.
1:00 P. M.—Radio Corporation of America meeting: Room 1.

Monday, September 27

9:00 A. M.—Registration continued: Mezzanine floor.
MPTOA meeting: Gold Room.
RCA Dealers meeting: Room No. 1.
12:30 P. M.—MPTOA luncheon: Gold Room.
TESMA Board of Directors luncheon and meeting: Room 6.
2:00 P. M.—TEDPA Board of Directors meeting: Room 4.
7:00 P. M.—MPTOA Banquet: Gold Room.

Tuesday, September 28

9:00 A. M.—Registration continued: Mezzanine floor.
10:00 A. M.—Exhibits open: Mezzanine floor and Ivory Room.
12:30 P. M.—Luncheon and Opening Session: Gold Room.
2:00 P. M.—Exhibits reopen.
6:00 P. M.—Ballantyne Company Reception and Dinner for Dealers: Rooms 8 and 9.
6:30 P. M.—Ideal Seating Dinner for Dealers: Room 1.
11:00 P. M.—Exhibits close.

Wednesday, September 29

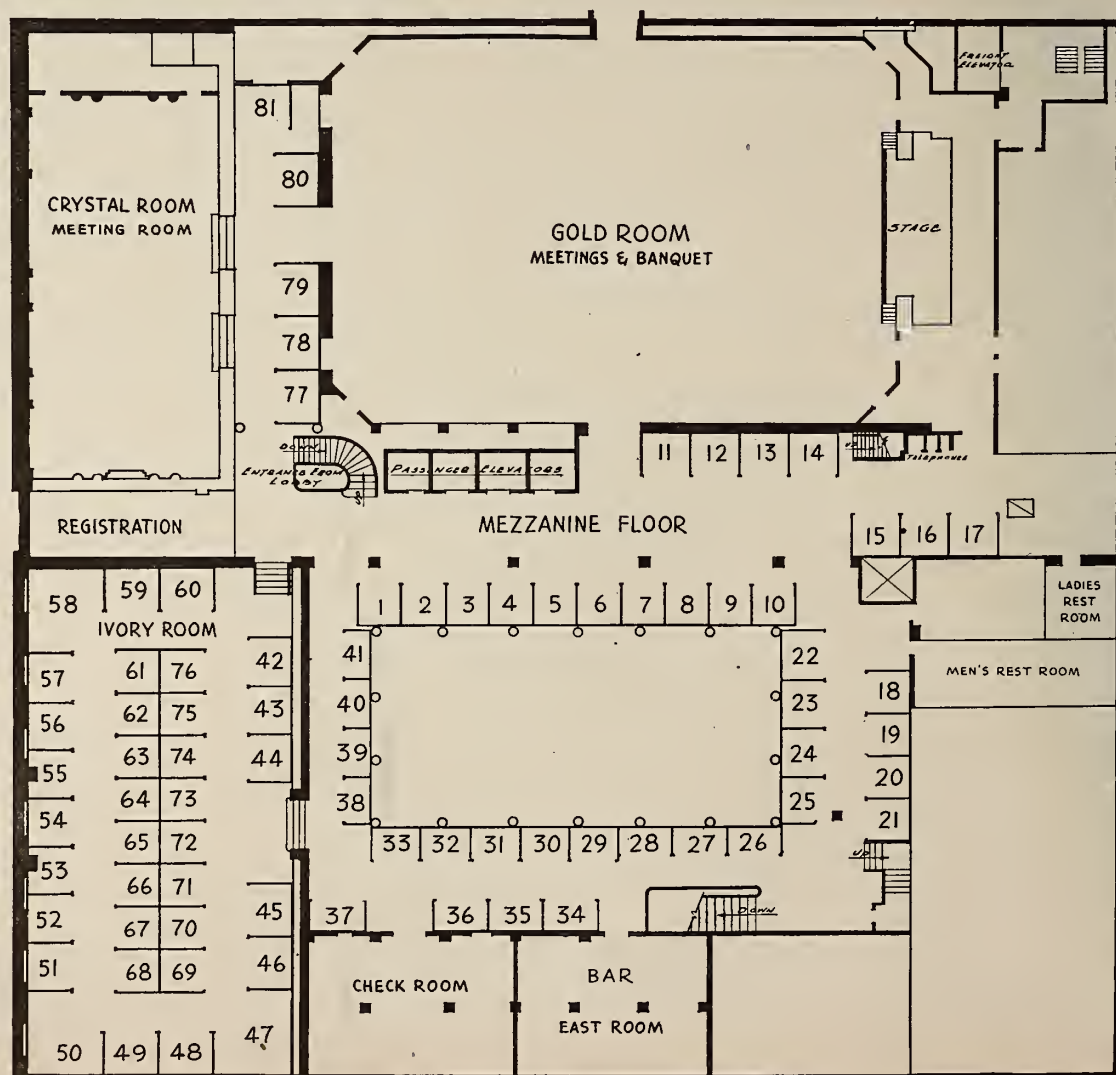
10:00 A. M.—Registration continued: Mezzanine floor.
10:30 A. M.—TESMA Annual business meeting: Gold Room.
TEDPA Annual business meeting: Crystal Room.
11:15 A. M.—Sightseeing tour and luncheon for ladies, buses leaving from Jefferson Hotel.
6:30 P. M.—Cocktail party; host, National Carbon Company: Crystal Room.
7:30 P. M.—Annual Banquet: Gold Room.

Thursday, September 30

10:00 A. M.—Registration continued: Mezzanine floor.
2:00 P. M.—TESMA Board of Directors meeting: Room No. 6.
TEDPA Board of Directors meeting: Room No. 4.
Premiere screening of Technicolor picture, "Carbon Arc Projection"; C. G. Ollinger, assistant advertising manager, National Carbon Company, lecturer.
Address by Barton Kreuzer, RCA, on "Television in the Theatre."
11:00 P. M.—Exhibit closes.

EXHIBITORS AND BOOTH NUMBERS AS SHOWN ON DIAGRAM

Adler Silhouette Letter Co.—75-76
Ashcraft Manufacturing Co.—69
Autocrat, Inc.—2
Automatic Devices, Inc.—38
Auto-Vend, Inc.—11
Baldor Electric Co.—66
Ballantyne Co.—70-71
Bausch & Lomb Optical Co.—3
Brenkert Light Projection Co.—49
Century Projector Corp.—45
Champion Moulding Mfg. Co.—44
Coinometer Corp.—53
C. Cretors & Co.—79
Da-Lite Screen Co.—29
Dazians, Inc.—35
Devry Corp.—58
Drive-In Theatre Mfg. Co.—7
Elizabeth Iron Works—24
Jay Emanuel Publications—25
Essannay Electric Mfg. Co.—41
Forest Electronic Corp.—8
Forest Manufacturing Corp.—8
General Register Corp.—36
Globe Ticket Co.—68
Golde Mfg. Co.—27
Gordos Corp.—12
Griggs Equipment Co.—14
Heywood-Wakefield Co.—61-62
Ideal Industries, Inc.—26
Ideal Seating Co.—72-73
International Seat Corp.—65
Irwin Seating Co.—30-31
Kneisley Electric Co.—10
Knoxville Scenic Studios—39
Kollmorgen Optical Corp.—74
Krispy Kist Korn Machine Co.—4-5
Kroehler Mfg. Co.—34
LaVezzi Machine Works—64
Lawrence Metal Products, Inc.—28
Thomas L. Leedom Co.—37
Manley, Inc.—33
Mohawk Carpet Mills—50
Motiograph, Inc.—42-43
Motion Picture Machine Co.—40
Murch Electric Corp.—18
National Super Service Co.—13
Neumade Products Corp.—59-60
Poblocki & Sons—6
Pronto Pop Corn Sales, Inc.—67
Radiant Lamp Corp.—63
Radiant Mfg. Co.—46
Radio Corp. of America—49-50
Raytone Screen Co.—9
Robin, J. E., Inc.—51-52



Star Mfg. Co.—23
Strong Electric Corp.—54
Superior Electric Co.—19-20-21
Theater Specialties, Inc.—55-56

Theatrecraft Mfg. Corp.—80
Tol-Pak Co.—22
Typhoon Air-Cond. Corp.—77-78
Universal Corp.—81

Vallen, Inc.—57
Wagner Sign Service, Inc.—47-48
Wenzel Projector Co.—1
Edward H. Wolk Co.—32

WELCOME

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THEATRE EQUIPMENT DEALERS
PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION
And
THEATRE EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLY
MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL CONVENTION

JEFFERSON HOTEL, St. Louis, Mo., September 28-29-30

Opposite this section appears a floor plan and the convention program of the TESMA National Trade Show. A complete list of manufacturers exhibiting their wares also appears by booth numbers.

Many of the advertisers in this special convention section are displaying new products for the first time to the motion picture theatre trade, and we earnestly urge you to visit these various exhibits.

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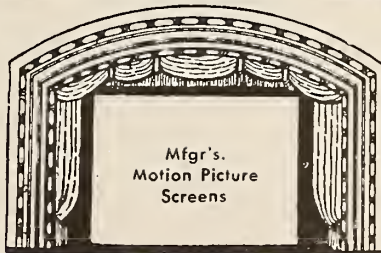
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AND
SOUND
SYSTEMS**

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CONVENTION REPRESENTATIVE, EDITH HULETT

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"Good light comedy. An enjoyable romp. Should have audiences laughing regularly!"
— INDEPENDENT

"A bang-up job readily saleable with popular and profitable reception. Smartly and opulently packaged!"
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"Bound to be top moneymaker. Great word-of-mouth. Strong name draw"
— SHOWMEN'S

"Showmen here have saleable merchandise. Two fine star names, slapstick galore, funny story!"
— M.P. HERALD



"Gay, light farce. Very much in favor of lucrative returns!"

— HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

"Livened by slick gags, top performing, first rate production, stands to do better than average business!"

— FILM DAILY

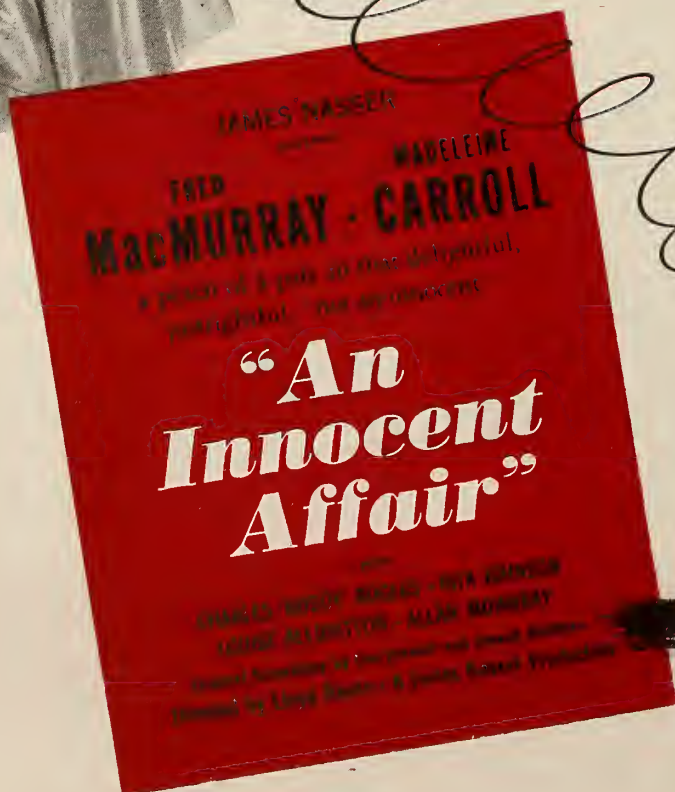
"Bright comedy suffused with wit and substance."

— M.P. DAILY

"Keeps the midriff pumping. A cinch for every type audience. Entire cast tops. Hilarious!"

— DAILY VARIETY

SHOWMAN'S TRADE REVIEW



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MOTION PICTURE DAILY

FIRST
IN
FILM
NEWS

VOL. 64, NO. 62

NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1948

TEN CENTS

Business Up 15%, U. S. Tax Reports Show

August Tax Collections Climb to \$34 - Millions

WASHINGTON, Sept. 27.—Box-office business bounded upwards in July, and not only rang up the top business for the year but was better than 15 per cent ahead of July, 1947, according to August tax collection figures released today by the Bureau of Internal Revenue.

General admission tax collections in August, reflecting July box-office business, totalled \$34,141,294, compared with \$29,309,491 last July. Previous 1948 monthly high was in July, reflecting June business, when collections totaled \$33,054,712. Collections have been going up steadily since May.

The big jump in July business, compared with July of last year, put the total box-office grosses for the first

(Continued on page 2)

10% Pay Hike Set For WB 'Collarites'

A 10 per cent flat wage increase has been won by IATSE Motion Picture Home Office Employees Local No. H-63 for all 619 Warner home office "white collarites," it was announced here jointly yesterday by the company and the union. The increase will be retroactive to June 1, and the expiration date of the contract will be Aug. 31, 1949. The local's executive board met here last night to consider the agreement, and it is expected that Warner employees will meet this week to vote on it.

Tenth Anniversary Drive for Grainger

In observance of his 10th anniversary with Republic, a James R. Grainger "Anniversary Drive" was inaugurated yesterday and will continue through Dec. 31, it was announced by co-captains Edward L. Walton, assistant general sales manager, and Walter L. Titus, Jr., division manager.

Grainger, executive vice-president in charge of sales, joined Republic in May, 1938. In Jan., 1946, he was elected sales vice-president of the new Republic Corp., formed then by the merger of Republic, Consolidated Film Industries and Setay.

U.S. Demands Action On Scophony Suit

Washington, Sept. 27.—The Justice Department is trying to "light a fire" under the defendants in the Scophony anti-trust suit, having told the defendants that if they intend to submit a proposed consent decree, they had better do so within a month or else the Government will go to trial.

One Department spokesman said that he understood the defendants had come "close to working out terms acceptable to us."

N. Y. 1st-Run Grosses Fair

New York's first-run grosses this week are mostly only fair, with continued warm weather apparently diverting many potential theatre-goers to outdoor attractions. The boxscore: "Olympic Games of 1948," at the Gotham, in its first week is good at \$14,000; "Good Sam," Music Hall, with a stage show, second week, \$125,000, good; "Sorry, Wrong Number," Paramount, Carmen Cavallaro on stage, fourth week, a fairly important \$75,000; "Luck of the Irish," Roxy, Ed Sullivan and an ice revue on stage, second and final week, adequate at \$80,000; fourth week of "Loves of Carmen" at Loew's State, a tidy \$34,000; fifth week of "Rope" at the Globe, profitable at \$30,000.

"Rachel and the Stranger," Mayfair, second, a fairly healthy \$28,000;

(Continued on page 2)

To Free Japanese Earnings for MPEA Property Purchases

All or part of the countless yens which American distributors have blocked in Japanese banks are expected to be released in about six weeks for property buying in that country, it was disclosed here yesterday by Charles Mayer, Motion Picture Export Association's managing director of Japan, who has arrived here for a series of headquarters conferences.

When the Japanese earnings are released MPEA may invest in theatre "showcases" as well as general property there, Mayer said, explaining that the properties would be operated by the MPEA until after the U. S. occupation of the country is ended. Then, he said, they would be divided proportionately among MPEA member companies. U. S. military authorities in Japan are currently fashioning regulations which will govern property in-

(Continued on page 7)

Ascap Change Up to Congress, Levy Says

St. Louis, Sept. 27.—Any basic modification of the Ascap problem will have to come from Congress, according to Herman Levy, general counsel for Theatre Owners of America. Levy was featured speaker at a luncheon for the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of St. Louis, Eastern Missouri and Southern Illinois which held its convention here today.

Levy reviewed the recent court record of the Ascap cases, but warned that no Ascap decision can affect an individual's right to demand a fee for

(Continued on page 7)

TOA Unsure Of Status of Buying Groups

Views Are Linked to D. of J. Stand on Subject

By RED KANN

CHICAGO, Sept. 27.—TOA terminated its annual convention with no clear definition for its membership about the legality, or otherwise, of buying and booking combines. Herman M. Levy, general counsel, said there was no answer because "the legal patterns and limits of activity of buying and booking combines have not yet been determined."

Under competitive bidding, Levy observed legality was in doubt, but that when the Supreme Court discarded competitive bidding, the situation underwent still another change. "The Supreme Court case and the two Ascap decisions were based substantially on the philosophy that you may not condition one copyright upon another," TOA's general counsel stated. "Without all of the facts of such a buying or booking combine, it is not possible to determine whether it will, or will not, be held illegal. And even

(Continued on page 7)

UA May Lose 12 NY Neighborhood Runs

United Artists is faced with the possible loss of 12 important revenue-producing neighborhood runs in the New York area as a result of their moving up to day-and-date availability with the RKO circuit, it was disclosed here. With the RKO clearance eliminated, the houses are advertising a "first-run" policy, meaning first in the neighborhood. UA product plays the Loew circuit, then the independents after a clearance of seven days.

The 12 situations are said to be in-

(Continued on page 2)

Para., Windsor Settle Suit Out of Court

WASHINGTON, Sept. 27.—Another distributor has come to an out-of-court settlement with the Windsor Theatre of Baltimore, in the Windsor's treble-damage anti-trust suit against six major distributors. Paramount, it was learned today, has agreed to split its first neighborhood run films between the Windsor and the competing Walbrook.

A similar settlement between the Windsor and 20th Century-Fox led

(Continued on page 2)

Twin-City Clearances Are More Muddled Than Ever

MINNEAPOLIS, Sept. 27.—Clearance in the Twin Cities became more muddled this week as eight Minneapolis houses swung from the 56-day slot to 42 days for Metro's "Easter Parade," and the Richfield and St. Louis Park, suburban stands remained in the slot for the picture under protest.

In St. Paul it looks like no clearance changes as the West Twins, independent, turned down a 35-day availability, and the Uptown (Maco), after setting a 35-day run, cancelled it out and remained at 49 days along with the West Twins.

Outcome of the 28-day runs at the Varsity and Homewood in Minneapolis

was reported not too good, as the two houses could not satisfactorily figure if the 60 cent admission price for the earlier run on "Easter Parade" was a profitable venture. They are carrying on, however, with the two stands using a joint advertisement heralding the "first neighborhood" showing. Both houses this week bought "Tap Roots" from Universal on 28-day availability. The Homewood and Varsity expect the price hike on their patrons to ease off, as a number of houses go to 42-day runs at 55 cents.

The Richfield has asked exchanges to negotiate on a 28-day run, but ex-

(Continued on page 7)

Personal Mention

AL LICHTMAN arrived here yesterday from Hollywood.

JOSEPH HAZEN, president of Hal Wallis Productions, accompanied by Mrs. HAZEN and their children, have arrived in New York after spending the summer in Santa Monica, Cal.

GENE AUTRY arrived here by plane yesterday from the Coast for his annual appearance with the Rodeo in Madison Square Garden.

SEYMOUR BROND has been promoted from assistant manager of Loew's State to acting manager of Loew's Post Road, both in New York.

DR. ERIC G. M. FLETCHER, deputy chairman of Associated British Pictures Corp., is due here tomorrow from London on the *SS Queen Mary*.

ROBERT FELLOWS, who will produce "Wings of the Navy" for Paramount, will leave here today for Washington.

AL ZIMBALIST, Film Classics advertising-publicity chief, will fly to Washington today from New York.

ARTHUR H. LOCKWOOD, president of Theatre Owners of America, returned to Boston yesterday from Chicago.

EDWARD LACHMAN, president of New Jersey Allied, will leave here today for St. Louis.

HAROLD MIRISCH of Allied Artists has arrived here from the Coast.

Meet on Postponing N.Y. Para. Suit Trial

Film company attorneys at a meeting here yesterday held their first discussions on a brief postponement of the trial in the anti-trust case against Paramount, et al., because it conflicts with the observance of Yom Kippur, Oct. 13. Although no final decision was reached a spokesman said that it is likely that a petition for a postponement of perhaps two days will be filed in New York Federal court.

Para., Windsor

(Continued from page 1)

to a breach of contract suit by the Walbrook against 20th-Fox. This suit is pending in District Court here. As yet no suit has been filed against Paramount, and Walbrook attorneys admit that the situation is slightly different in that the Walbrook has contracts with 20th-Fox, United Artists, Universal, and Warner, while it had no contract with M-G-M and Paramount.

Grant DeLuxe Extension

CHICAGO, Sept. 27.—An extension for the filing of plaintiff's briefs in the DeLuxe Theatre case against Balaban and Katz was granted until Oct. 27 in Federal Judge William Campbell's court, here, today.

35mm. 'Non-Inflam' Film Is Ready Now

Eastman Kodak is ready for an immediate switch to limited use of only non-inflammable 35 mm. film in West Coast studios.

Edward Peck Curtis, Kodak vice-president, announced the company's step in New York. Curtis said Kodak is prepared to supply the industry with a new type of 35 mm. safety film for daily "rushes." That is the film used in printing from the negative shot in studios, as distinguished from release films distributed to theatres.

He said the company is working on development of safety film for release prints also but that is "very much of a future operation."

Curtis said other manufacturers besides Kodak also will supply non-inflammable film for studios. He stated it is hoped that the type of safety film to be provided on the Coast eventually may be used for release printing for theatre projection.

Claim Process Cuts Animated Film Cost

WASHINGTON, Sept. 27.—A patent has been granted Place Process, Inc., for a process which the firm claims will cut in half the cost of producing animated cartoons.

Robert Place, inventor, said he proposes to license the patent on a royalty basis. Savings are achieved by eliminating many artists now required and using mechanical means to turn out pictures faster. The process photographically reproduces the artist's drawings on transparent sheets of celluloid, and dispenses with the present step of hand tracing these images on the cells by "inkers." Opaquing of the images on the transparent cells is also simplified and expedited, Place claims.

Industry Fund Sets 51 Scholarships

To mark the opening of the 51st academic year at Yeshiva University here the Motion Picture Industry Scholarship Fund will provide 51 scholarships for needy students for 1948-49, it was announced here at the weekend by G. S. Eysell, president of Radio City Music Hall, chairman of this year's industry drive.

Members of his committee were: Barney Balaban, Nate Blumberg, Jules W. Catsiff, Irving H. Greenfield, Monroe Greenthal, Dan Michalove, Charles Moskowitz, Charles D. Prutzman, Harold Rodner, Sam Rosen, Abe Schneider, George P. Skouras and George J. Schaefer, honorary chairman.

Para. Relinquishes House

Paramount will relinquish all of its interest in the 1,343-seat Strand Theatre, Yonkers, effective Sept. 30, Leonard H. Goldenson, vice-president in charge of theatre operations, disclosed here yesterday. Paramount has a 50 per cent interest in the house, with the remaining 50 per cent owned by W. W. Farley and the George Walsh Estate. Paramount has operated the house since 1925.

Business Up 15%

(Continued from page 1)

seven months of 1948 only a shade below last year's. Until the August collection figures were released, it had been estimated that business was off slightly more than one per cent. Collection figures for the February-through-August period, reflecting business in the first seven months, now show total collections of \$214,200,000 this year, compared with \$214,407,000 last year—or a drop of about one-tenth of one per cent.

In three months this year—March, June and August, reflecting February, May and July business, respectively, collections exceeded 1947 figures. In the other four months, 1947 collections were higher.

The general admission collections include legitimate theatres, sports events and other general admission events as well as motion picture theatres, but do not include roof garden and cabaret taxes nor taxes on various leases or overcharges. Admission tax collections of all types in August totaled \$38,820,739, compared with \$33,511,582 last year.

New York Grosses

(Continued from page 1)

"For the Love of Mary," Criterion, first and only week, \$16,000, sub-par; "Luxury Liner," Capitol, Gene Krupa on stage, third and final, \$56,000, moderate; "Velvet Touch," Rivoli, fourth and final, \$15,000, dull; "Larceny," Winter Garden, three days of the fourth week, \$8,000; "Life With Father," Strand, Johnny Long on stage, second and final week, a light \$32,000; "Babe Ruth Story," Astor, ninth, down to about \$14,000.

New pictures due this week follow: "An Innocent Affair" at the Rivoli, today; "Saxon Charm," Criterion, "Hamlet," Park, and "Cry of the City" at the Roxy, all tomorrow; "Red River" at the Capitol on Thursday, and "Johnny Belinda" at the Strand on Friday.

Winter Garden Bows Out As First-Run for Films

The Winter Garden, here, which Universal-International has had on lease for the past three years, and which has been showing first-run product of that company, closed at the weekend. The lease will expire on Thursday and the house will revert to "legit" productions.

N. J. Allied Meets Today

NEWARK, Sept. 27.—New Jersey Allied will hold a special membership meeting at the Newark Athletic Club tomorrow, rather than today as previously indicated, to consider adoption of the 20th-Fox Andy W. Smith, Jr., exhibitor-distributor conciliation plan. Jersey Allied president Edward Lachman will conduct the meeting.

Charles Lyne of M-G-M

OKLAHOMA CITY, Sept. 27.—Charles D. Lyne, M-G-M branch manager here, died suddenly Saturday night. Ward Royalty temporarily is taking over management of the exchange, until a successor is named by William F. Rodgers, sales vice-president.

Propose Academy Awards for Video

To establish higher standards and technical effort in the production of films for television, Jack Glenn, executive director of The March of Time and chairman of the production committee of the National Television Film Council, has given to Melvin L. Gold, NTFC chairman, a recommendation from his committee for annual awards for television films, to be sponsored by NTFC. The proposal will be submitted to the general membership at the monthly NTFC meeting at Sardi's here on Thursday evening.

First general election of officers of the council will take place Thursday at Sardi's. Unopposed nominees for officers are: President, Gold; vice-president, Burt Balaban; secretary, Robert M. Wormhoudt; treasurer, Robert W. Paskow.

UA May Lose

(Continued from page 1)

tent on playing only "first-run." Efforts to solve the problem will be made in negotiations with the theatres, including Loew's, it is understood. Some of the 12 houses seat over 2,000, with admissions scaled up to 80 cents top.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
GARY COOPER • ANN SHERIDAN
in **LEO McCAREY'S**
"GOOD SAM"
A Rainbow Productions, Inc. Picture
Released by RKO Radio Pictures
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

Barbara Stanwyck
Burt Lancaster
"SORRY, WRONG NUMBER"
A Paramount Release
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
in Person **CAVALLARO** and His Orchestra
with **THE MARTIN BROTHERS**
JACK E. LEONARD
MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

RKO presents
LORETTA WILLIAM ROBERT
YOUNG HOLDEN MITCHUM
in
'RACHEL and the STRANGER'
Brand's **MAYFAIR** 7th Ave. & 47th St.

James Nasset Presents
FRED MacMurray
MADEIRA CARROLL
Released thru United Artists
RIVOLI 8th Ave. & 49th St.
"AN INNOCENT AFFAIR"
Or is it?
Doors Open 9:30 A. M.

Gentlemen...it's magic

PARAMOUNT magic that
now conjures up for
you Hit No. 3 in that
Autumn Harvest of Hits



"Night has a thousand Eyes"

IS ONE OF THE MOST UNUSUAL PICTURES
MADE BY PARAMOUNT IN THE
PAST 36 YEARS . . .

WE REPEAT:

"One of the Most Unusual Pictures
Made By Paramount in the
Past 36 Years" is this

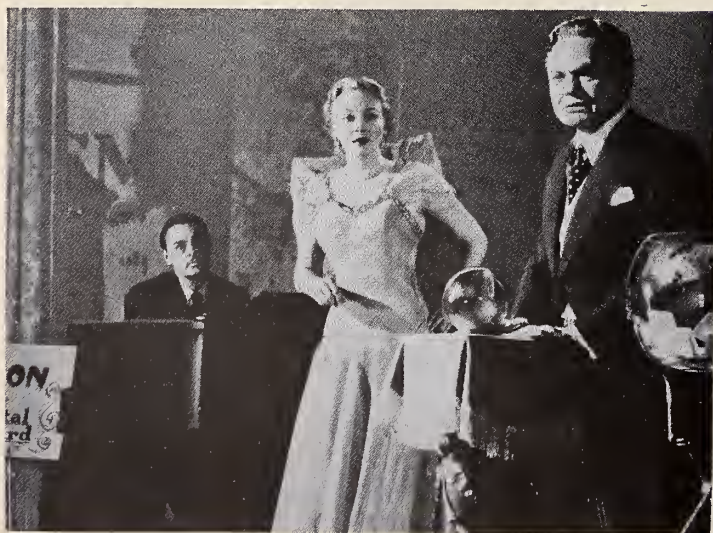
Adventure

That Explores The Fascinating
Phenomena The Average Man Calls
"Hunches" and "Premonitions"



IT'S AN ADVENTURE IN TIME

that takes the spectator thru time's purple
veil . . . behind which the past merges with
the present, the present with the future . . .
on a menacing night when the stars look down.



IT'S AN ADVENTURE OF A MAN'S SOUL

. . . of "Triton, The Great"—the man who can
see into tomorrow. Labeled by the police a criminal—
by psychic scientists an "E.S.P. Person,"
gifted (or cursed) with "extra-sensory perception."



"I see a crushed flower, a
broken vase . . . a curtain blowing
in the breeze. Then on the exact stroke
of 11—she will meet an amazing
and inescapable fate . . ."

EDWARD G.

ROBINSON

GAIL

RUSSELL

JOHN

LUND

has a

"The night has a thousand eyes,
And the day but one;
Yet the light of the bright world dies
With the dying sun.

"The mind has a thousand eyes,
And the heart but one;
Yet the light of a whole life dies
When love is done."



IT'S AN ADVENTURE OF TWO LOVERS

with your meteoric star, John ("Foreign Affair") Lund as the man whose arms shield a beautiful girl whom a predetermined, little-comprehended destiny has marked for tragedy . . .



IT'S AN ADVENTURE IN BOXOFFICE SELLING

spearheaded by a personal appearance tour by Dr. J. B. Rhine, psychic researcher at Duke University. Plus national magazine ads beamed to the feminine intuition of 66 million women . . .

"Night thousand Eyes"



with
VIRGINIA BRUCE • WILLIAM DEMAREST

produced by **ENDRE BOHEM** • directed by **JOHN FARROW**

Screen Play by Barré Lyndon and Jonathan Latimer

THE PRESS
HAS A THOUSAND "AYES" FOR

"Night Has a Thousand Eyes"

"A sock, saleable film . . . geared
for profitable pay-off regardless
of national boxoffice level."

—says *Hollywood Reporter*

"Here is one of the most terrific
thrillers of this year."

—says *Showmen's Trade Review*

"Supernatural gifts are not re-
quired to foresee a healthy box-
office future for it."

—says *M. P. Daily*

"Provocative drama strikes a dif-
ferent note. A good bet for a long
boxoffice haul."

—says *Film Daily*

"Robinson turns in excellent per-
formance and that finish puts
your heart in your throat."

—says *M. P. Herald*

SPECIAL EXPLOITATION HUNCHES TO FOLLOW:

Start playing extra early that extra ex-
citing trailer narrated by John Lund...

Start local disc-jockeys playing extra
early that title-popularizing ballad:
"Night Has A Thousand Eyes."

Paramount's
Autumn
Harvest of
Hits

will lengthen
that boxoffice
line from now
right up to '49!

TOA Unsure

(Continued from page 1)

knowing the facts it is not possible validly to predict the attitude of the courts at this time."

There is substantial reason to believe Levy's viewpoint accurately reflects the thinking of Robert L. Wright, Assistant Attorney General, who has been in charge of the Government's suit against Paramount, et al. Wright met TOA's legal advisory council in an off-record meeting at which this position is understood to have been propounded.

Twenty attorneys, representing various TOA units, in a majority report on Ascap, recommended that those exhibitors who do not intend continuing payments to Ascap while current litigation continues notify Ascap to that effect and set aside their fees in a special, reserve or escrow account. The advice is optional, of course.

United Artists was held to be the "greatest violator" on 16 mm. distribution. Discussions with the company were determined in an effort to relieve the condition as charged. While little complaint was registered against other distributors, the committee on 16 mm. films suggested, and the convention approved, a letter to all 35 mm. distributors, foreign and domestic, asking an exposition of "exact policy" on 16 mm. distribution in the United States.

Gael Sullivan, executive director, is continuing efforts to reduce freight rates on transportation of prints. Henry Reeve, of Texas, reporting for this committee, revealed no detail, but suggested favorable developments might be forthcoming in the next 30 days.

Criticize NSS Policies

William Ruffin, of Covington, Ky., criticized National Screen Service on its service and prices. Edward G. Zorn, president of United Theatre Owners of Illinois, backed him up. Charles P. Skouras reported complaints from the West Coast, and Ted Gamble from the Pacific Northwest, but in less harsh terms than either Ruffin or Zorn, who emphasized his feeling that the trailer situation applying to all companies should be reviewed. It was determined to refer

the matter to the board of directors. Guthrie Crowe, president of the Kentucky Association of Theatre Owners, commissioner of Kentucky state police, as well as state commander of the American Legion, outlined a general plan to reduce juvenile delinquency by marshalling the efforts of these three groups.

What develops with such ideas as a code of fair business practices, outlined in Gamble's retiring speech as president; a nation-wide system of conciliation at the exchange level, as proposed by Paul Williams' committee on distributor-exhibitor relations; a national theatre distribution setup for topical and special events in television, advanced by Arthur H. Lockwood on behalf of the television committee, remains to be seen. Such programs are up to the board of directors, which remains in office until a new one is elected by the regional units. Since officers are ex-officio board members, Lockwood no longer is eligible as director from Connecticut. All other incumbents, however, can be re-elected and most of them will be.

1949 Convention Site Undecided

No decision on next year's convention city was made, but again it will be held in the third week of September, when ATA and MPTOA merged as TOA.

At the banquet, Gamble was presented with a rack of pipes, Fred Wehrenberg of St. Louis with a desk set, and Robert W. Coyne, special TOA adviser, with a wrist watch. Coyne, incidentally, continues on the executive committee for another year.

Stritch Urges Exhibitors To Raise Show Standards

CHICAGO, Sept. 27.—Higher moral standards in selecting films will help exhibitors solve many of their economic ills and heighten their moral responsibility to the community, Samuel Cardinal Stritch stated at the concluding banquet of the TOA convention.

Acknowledging contributions made by motion pictures, the Cardinal declared, "Sometimes the institution of the moving picture show has not been conscious of its high social and moral obligation." Later, he observed, "It seems to me that the development of this consciousness (of his important civic obligation to provide wholesome amusement to the public) in the exhibitor will do very much more for the betterment of your business than any code of standards."

Early Sunday morning, Ted Gamble, TOA's board chairman, replied, "The exhibitors were encouraged by Cardinal Stritch's remarks because they dovetailed with their own program to be of greater public service and to encourage the production and presentation of motion pictures which would more completely realize the American ideal and way of life."

Kansas-Missouri Owners To Convene in K.C. Today

KANSAS CITY, Sept. 27.—Board of directors of the Kansas-Missouri Theatre Association met today to review plans for the organization's annual convention which will open tomorrow at the Muehlebach Hotel here.

Principal convention speaker will be Theatre Owners of America executive director Gael Sullivan. KMTA is a TOA affiliate. Other speakers will be TOA general counsel Herman Levy, Attorney-General Edward Arn of Kansas, M-G-M's H. M. Richey, RKO Radio's Leon Bamberger, Motion Picture Association's Dave Paley, and producer Paul Terry.

French Exhibitor at TOA, TESMA Meets

CHICAGO, Sept. 27.—Pierre Ratelet, secretary of the National Federation of French Exhibitors, attended the TOA convention en route to the TESMA convention in St. Louis. Metropolitan exhibitors in France are not keen about playing terms incorporated in the new four-year agreement recently consummated between France and America, although in smaller cities French exhibitors look upon it with favor, he reported. Ratelet is here to inspect new theatre equipment and developments in television on behalf of the French association.

MPEA, Japan

(Continued from page 1)

vestments, Mayer said. Since there is at present no dollar exchange for yens, the arrangement is viewed as a desirable one by Mayer.

Recently, Mayer reported, a yen conversion arrangement was adopted to permit U. S. film companies to secure repayment in dollars for out-of-pocket expenses in Japan. It will be retroactive to last July 1, and will remain in effect until July 1, 1949, he said.

Some 84 U. S. features will be released this year in Japan, Mayer said.

Twin City Clearance

(Continued from page 1)

changes apparently are stalling for a time to see how the Varsity and Homewood make out. The small Loop Pix, which has tried nearly every kind of operation since the war without much success, also is reportedly readying a demand for 28-day pictures. Meantime, Paramount has surprised the two stands by offering them two pictures available for 28-days.

Roundtree Buys Two

MEMPHIS, Sept. 27.—Leon Roundtree, who owns and operates the Holly Theatre at Holly Springs, Miss., and the Grand at Water Valley, Miss., has purchased the Strand and Star Theatres at Lexington, Miss., from Strand Enterprises.

Rosenberg to Classics

Joseph Rosenberg, former salesman under Bob Abelson, has been named sales supervisor of the Los Angeles exchange of Film Classics.

Olson Buys House

ZILLAH, Wash., Sept. 27.—John E. Olson has purchased the Rose Theatre here from Ray Miller.

India Will Develop Own Film Industry

WASHINGTON, Sept. 27.—The Indian Motion Picture Producers Association, in Bombay, has urged the government to set up a committee to study methods of developing the domestic industry, according to a Commerce Department report by Nathan Golden.

Golden says the association declared the Indian film industry ranks second only to the U. S. in quantity of pictures produced, but has lagged far behind many countries in production technique, color and cartoons. Moreover, according to the association, theatre facilities are inadequate, censorship has been severe, and taxation in certain provinces is too high.

Ascap to Congress

(Continued from page 1)

the use of his copyrighted product by producers or exhibitors.

Predicting that television will be one of the greatest means of mass communication ever invented, Gael Sullivan, executive director of Theatre Owners of America, declared: "If you can't lick them, join them. . . . We've got to find a way to marry some of our relations with the swift advance of television."

Sullivan, who spoke last night at the MPTO banquet, also observed that television, discriminatory legislation, litigation and public relations were matters with which the motion picture is in crisis, but, he said, the crisis should be viewed as an opportunity for improvement.

The MPTO meeting preceded by one day the opening of the annual conventions of the Theatre Equipment and Supply Manufacturers Association and Theatre Equipment Dealers Protective Association. The 300 Missouri and Illinois theatremen who were present for the local meeting toured the TESMA exhibits between sessions and honored Oscar Neu, TESMA president, at their luncheon.

Other luncheon speakers included Leon Bamberger of RKO Radio and Henderson Richey of M-G-M.

Fred Wehrenberg, long-time president of the MPTO unit, refused to be a candidate for reelection and is succeeded by Tom Edwards of Farmington, Mo. Wehrenberg consented to continue in the new post of chairman of the board. Other officers are: vice-presidents, Clarence Kaimann and Carson Rodgers; secretary, A. Mercier; treasurer, Louis A. Ansell; treasurer, J. C. Ansell; and recording secretary, Lester Kropp.

Announcing...deluxe
all-sleeper service

**NEW YORK
to PARIS**

every Friday 4 P. M. EST

Fly on world-proved TWA Constellations. Cocktails, champagne, vintage wines. Filet mignon dinner. Bed-size berths! Hot breakfast! Call TWA or your travel agent.

The only Coast-to-Coast Constellations

TWA

TRANS WORLD AIRLINE

U.S.A. • EUROPE • AFRICA • ASIA

Johnny Belinda

next from Warner Bros.



There's a big new name in the industry



**Not since
"The Road to Rio"...
Not since
Bob and Bing...
has Dottie been
combined with a
trio more sure
of that
boxoffice ZING!**

BENEDICT BOGEAUS presents
**DOROTHY LAMOUR
GEORGE MONTGOMERY
CHARLES LAUGHTON**
in
**"The GIRL FROM
MANHATTAN"**

with ERNEST TRUAX • HUGH HERBERT
WILLIAM FRAWLEY • CONSTANCE COLLIER
SARA ALLGOOD

Directed by ALFRED E. GREEN
Original Story and Screenplay by Howard Estabrook
Produced by BENEDICT BOGEAUS

Released thru U. A.!

Accurate
Concise
and
Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

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FIRST
IN
FILM
NEWS

64. NO. 63

NEW YORK, U.S.A., WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 1948

TEN CENTS

No Further Remittance Cuts: Cripps

**Expects June, 1950, Pact
Review Date to Stand**

WASHINGTON, Sept. 28. — Sir Stafford Cripps said today he did not think the British government would make any move to further cut dollar remittances by U. S. film companies before the present agreement comes up for review in June, 1950.

The British Chancellor of the Exchequer, here for meetings of the International Bank and Monetary Funds, did not say there would be such a move in 1950, merely pointing out that the agreement comes up for review then, and that there was nothing in the works to do anything about remittances before then.

Sir Stafford, asked whether there is
(Continued on page 6)

MPEA Fears Break With Brazilians

In an effort to avert a break in film relations with Brazil, the Motion Picture Export Association has directed Gerald M. Mayer, managing director of the international division of the Motion Picture Association of America, to confer in Brazil with officials of the Brazilian government and motion picture representatives. Mayer will fly on Friday to begin conferences in Rio de Janeiro over the weekend.

The MPEA at a meeting presided over by Francis Harmon, vice-president, decided to oppose new regulations promulgated by the Brazilian
(Continued on page 6)

Buddy Rogers Will Produce in Rome

As the result of a survey of production conditions abroad, Charles (Buddy) Rogers intends to produce at least one film in Rome, where, he said, there are considerable economic and other advantages.

Rogers, in New York after a tour of Europe, pointed to available studio space in the Italian capital and the co-operative attitude of the Italian people as having influenced his decision to produce in that city. He said he plans to employ "very few" techni-
(Continued on page 6)

Annual Dinner of Pioneers Nov. 17

Annual dinner of the Motion Picture Pioneers will be held on November 17 in the Hotel Waldorf-Astoria here. This was decided at a meeting of the dinner committee yesterday. Present at the meeting were Jack Cohn, George Jessel, Hal Horne, Hal Hode, Gil Josephson, Marvin Kirsch, Jack Levin, Harry Takiff, Leon Leonidoff and Jack Goldstein. Horne presided.

N.J. Allied for Conciliation

NEWARK, Sept. 28.—Membership of New Jersey Allied today unanimously approved the exhibitor-distributor conciliation plan sponsored by Andy W. Smith, Jr., 20th-Fox general sales manager. It was the second exhibitor unit to formally ratify the plan, North Central Allied having been the first some time ago. Wisconsin Allied's membership is expected to approve it during that organization's Oct. 14-15 convention.

It was disclosed at today's meeting by Jersey Allied president Edward Lachman that
(Continued on page 2)

K-MTA Meet Opens; New Vistas Slated

KANSAS CITY, Sept. 28.—Trend indicated in today's talks and discussions at the convention of the Kansas-Missouri Theatre Association was active following up of Theatre Owners of America policies, further cultivation of public relations, both generally and on the local community level, and the cultivation of intra-industry relations
(Continued on page 2)

Skouras, Koegel Quit N. Y. Circuit's Board

Spyros P. Skouras and Otto Koegel, president and general counsel, respectively, of 20th Century-Fox, both have resigned as board members of Skouras Theatres Corp., New York, headed by George Skouras.

They and the late John R. Dillon have been replaced by James M. Landis, former dean of Harvard Law School; Spyros S. Skouras, son of Spyros P., and J. W. White, head of the circuit's accounting department.

4 Will List ITOA in Move Theatres They To Void All Would Give Up Ascaph Pacts

Tentative lists of theatre holdings which they would be willing to relinquish as a basis for a consent decree in the industry anti-trust suit will be furnished to the Department of Justice by Paramount, Loew's, Warners and 20th Century-Fox, with RKO taking a "different approach," it was disclosed here yesterday. At RKO, an official acknowledged the split on strategy, making it clear that the company has never taken part in any general discussions of a decree in the case and does not intend to become a party to one.

The lists, all separately compiled, of course, will be presented to the
(Continued on page 6)

'IA' Wins UA NLRB Vote

IATSE won a sweeping "white collarite" shop election victory at United Artists' home office yesterday, climaxing 12 weeks of jockeying for jurisdictional position between "IA" Motion Picture Home Office Employees Local No. H-63 (AFL) and the Screen Office and Professional Employees Guild (CIO).

Yesterday's NLRB election results marked "IA's" first successful invasion of a SOPEG unit.

SOPEG, as a union which has not complied with the non-Communist affidavit provisions of the Taft-Hartley
(Continued on page 2)

1,200 On Hand for Tesda-Tedpa Show

ST. LOUIS, Sept. 28.—The Theatre Equipment and Supply Manufacturers Association and the Theatre Equipment Dealers Protective Association opened their annual meetings at the Hotel Jefferson here today amid a block-long array of exhibits and civic and industrial fanfare.

Mayor Aloys P. Kaufmann welcomed the motion picture men to St. Louis at a luncheon inaugurating the three-day sessions. The toastmaster was Joseph M. Holland, corporation counsel. About 400 attended the luncheon which filled the Jefferson's Gold Room.

Officials said registration for the
(Continued on page 6)

Proposes NY Decree to Bar Infringement Suits

All contract provisions between Ascaph and film producers, and between distributors and exhibitors, which set forth that exhibitors must clear music rights through Ascaph, would be declared "void, illegal and unenforceable," under a New York Federal Court decree to be proposed today by the exhibitor plaintiffs in the anti-trust suit against the society.

The proposed judgment is intended to convert into specific law the opinion against Ascaph handed down by Judge Vincent Liebell last July 19.

Attorneys Weisman, Celler, Quinn, Allan and Spett, in behalf of the plaintiffs, ask the court to perpetually enjoin Ascaph from collecting fees from, or from having music dealings of any sort with, theatremen. Plaintiffs are
(Continued on page 6)

Other Distributors May Lose N. Y. Runs

Paramount, M-G-M and Columbia, as well as United Artists, the latter as reported yesterday, are confronted with the possible loss of 12 New York neighborhood outlets as the result of clearance revisions in the area.

The four distributors' films play the Loew circuit here, giving it a seven-day clearance over 12 local independents which recently moved up to day-and-date availability with RKO theatres. The 12 now are said to be disinclined to take the product of the distributors except on a neighborhood first-run basis, and not after Loew.

1st FP-C Regional at Niagara Oct. 18-21

TORONTO, Sept. 28.—With discussion of falling attending figures and increased theatre competition on the agenda, Famous Players Canadian has issued a call for regional conferences of personnel and partners at Niagara Falls Oct. 18-21. Barney Balaban, Paramount president, is slated to address the meeting. Subsequent two-day meetings are to be held at Winnipeg and Edmonton, winding up with a gathering at Vancouver on Nov. 16-17. J. J. Fitzgibbons and other home office officials are scheduled to attend all of the conferences.

Personal Mention

FRANK CAPRA, Paramount producer-director, is due here today from Boston.

JOHN WOOLF, joint managing director of J. Arthur Rank's General Film Distributors in charge of Western Hemisphere distribution, who was in New York, left yesterday for Toronto for conferences with J. EARL LAWSON, head of Rank interests in Canada.

WILLIAM ORNSTEIN, M-G-M publicist, has been cited for his "distinctive" short story, "Ma and Mrs. Robinson," in a special listing in the newly published "Best Short Stories of 1948," by Martha Foley.

BUDD GETSCHAL, former Paramount and Warner advertising executive and now vice-president and partner in Stuart Bart, Inc., advertising agency, will be married in New York today to EVELYNE LOVE COOPER.

ARTHUR REIMAN, head of Film Classics contract approval department, and MRS. REIMAN became parents of a daughter on Sunday.

WALTER BRANSON, RKO Radio Western division manager, will return to New York from Hollywood tomorrow.

PAUL MACNAMARA, Selznick advertising-publicity director, left here yesterday by plane for the Coast.

G. L. CARRINGTON, Altec Service president, is in New York from the Coast.

JOEL LEVY, Loew's out-of-town booker, will leave here today for Atlantic City and a vacation.

Name Malcolm Smith Hughes Tool Officer

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 28.—Election of Malcolm Smith, former New York investment banker, as vice-president of Hughes Tool Co., central organization of Howard Hughes' industrial operations, was announced here today by Hughes. Hughes said Smith will work in close association with him and executive vice-president Noah Dietrich.

In addition to RKO Radio, operations covered by Hughes Tool Co., includes TWA and Hughes Aircraft.

Goldstein Opens a Publicity Office Here

Jack Goldstein has opened a New York office for advertising, public relations, exploitation and specialized services in the motion picture, radio and television fields and has completed arrangements for representation in Hollywood, London and Paris. He still maintains an interest in Sing-A-Tina Studios.

Honor Weitman at 'Stars' Luncheon

Robert M. Weitman, managing director of the New York and Brooklyn Paramount theatres, was feted at a luncheon yesterday at the Hotel Astor by leaders of the United Jewish Appeal for his services over several years for the annual "Night of Stars." Weitman is again this year's chairman of the entertainment committee for the 15th annual "Night of Stars" which will be held at Madison Square Garden here on Nov. 15.

The luncheon marked the inauguration of the campaign for the show. Nathan Strauss, general chairman of the campaign, was chairman of the luncheon.

To Stress Territorial Premieres: Scully

CINCINNATI, Sept. 28.—Territorial world premieres in this and other areas to coincide with saturation promotional campaigns and in line with the company's newly-announced policy on reduced clearances, was emphasized by William A. Scully, Universal distribution vice-president, at a two-day meeting which opened here yesterday.

In addition to sales personnel from nine cities, home office executives attending the meeting also included: A. J. O'Keefe, E. T. Gomersall, F. J. A. McCarthy, Maurice Bergman, G. J. Malafronte, James J. Jordan and L. J. McGinley. Similar regional meetings will be held in Chicago on Friday and Saturday and in San Francisco Oct. 7-8.

Drive for Warner Division Managers

Ben Kalmenson, Warner general sales manager, has set October as division managers' month in the company's current sales drive which began in May and will last through Nov. 13. Division managers are: Roy Haines, Western; Jules Lapidus, Eastern and Canada, and Norman Ayers, Southern.

K-MTA Meet Opens

(Continued from page 1)

such as the prospect of setting up of a conciliation committee. A keynote was industrial cooperation for solving exhibitors' problems and cooperation continuously with public agencies such as welfare and educational for civic and social advance with particular emphasis on projects that benefit youth.

Convention opened today at the Hotel Muehlebach, with Homer Strowig, president, presiding. Secretary E. C. Cook reviewed the year's work, reporting the largest active membership in the association's history.

Gael Sullivan, TOA executive director, spoke briefly, emphasizing the public relations achievements and the program of the TOA. Herman Levy, TOA counsel, said he would talk Wednesday, inviting questions for discussion in the convention or on local matters with individuals.

SAG-Producer Talks To Resume in Oct.

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 28.—Screen Actors Guild will resume negotiations with producers early next month on the still unresolved issues of television films, reissues, re-use of stock shots and conditions for contract players, according to an intelligence report mailed to the guild membership. The report also disclosed that Ronald Reagan has been nominated for reelection as president along with 24 other candidates.

IA Wins at UA

(Continued from page 1)

Law, was not permitted a place on the UA ballot; hence, the UA "collarites" had a choice between H-63 or no union at all. The National Labor Relations Board, which had ordered the UA shop election following an unsuccessful attempt by a UA employee to thwart it, is expected to certify H-63 as the bargaining agent within a week.

UA's "white collarites" voted 109 to 26 to be represented hereafter by H-63 for collective bargaining purposes; up to last June the shop was SOPEG's.

Russell Moss, H-63 business agent, indicated that the new local will immediately set up a negotiating committee to confer with the UA management on a new union contract.

H-63 represents Warner and Universal home office "white collarites" as well as those of UA now.

SPG Declares 'Cold Strike' Against Nine Distributors

Screen Publicists Guild, rejected by virtually all distributors for not having complied with the non-Communist provisions of the Taft-Hartley Law, yesterday declared a "cold strike" against Columbia, M-G-M, Paramount, RKO Radio, Republic, 20th-Fox, United Artists, Universal and Warners. SPG public relations chairman Leon Roth announced the "cold strike," explaining it would be manifested by the distribution of pamphlets in front of theatres.

Jersey Allied

(Continued from page 1)

Newark attorney A. L. Abrams has been retained by the organization as permanent counsel for the purpose of "policing" the U. S. Supreme Court's mandates in the industry anti-trust suit.

In connection with Jersey Allied's acceptance of the Smith plan, Irving Dollinger, Lou Gold and Wilbur Snaper were named to serve as a committee which will investigate any exhibitor complaints in dealings with 20th-Fox.

The Jersey membership also voted to hold their next annual convention at Atlantic City on Sept. 13-15, 1949.

Lawrence Kuh, Exhibitor

CORNING, Ia., Sept. 28.—Services were held here for Lawrence Kuh, owner of the local American Theatre and the Grand at Greenfield. He died following a heart attack.

Newsreel Parade

THE Berlin crisis and the Presidential campaign mark current newsreel highlights. The Air Force reunion, sports and human interest stories round out the reels. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 78—Berlin crisis turned over to UN. Presidential campaign touring California. Air Force reunion in New York. Football.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 107—Greatest UN crisis as East-West split on Berlin issue. The political campaign waxes hot in the West. Stars shine at Air Force show. Football.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 11—Air Force reunion. Last rites for Bernadotte. Football.

UNIVERSAL NEWS, No. 182—Truman and Dewey tour the West for votes. Children's hands across the border. Football.

WARNER PATHE NEWS, No. 13—Truman and Dewey. UN: Berlin. Air Force show. Football.

F. E. Adams, 70, Was A Founder of P. C. T.

LONDON, Sept. 28.—F. E. Adams, 70, veteran of the British film industry, is dead.

Adams had a considerable hand in the formation of Provincial Cinematograph Theatres, one of the principal groups ultimately absorbed into the present Gaumont-British combine. He became managing-director of PCT in 1918 and remained in that office until 1924, when he resigned due to ill health.

Earlier he had been an exporter of films to America, but went out of that business in the exigencies of World War I.

Though it has only just become known, Adams' death occurred on Sept. 17 at Matlock Bath Spa, Derbyshire, where he had lived for many years.

Gregg Toland, Noted Cameraman, Is Dead

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 28.—Gregg Toland, noted cameraman whose work has won many Academy Awards, died at his Beverly Hills home today of coronary thrombosis. He was 44 years old.

Toland's work included "Best Years of Our Lives," "Wuthering Heights," "Citizen Kane," "Grapes of Wrath," "Intermezzo" and many others. He is survived by his widow, Virginia Thorpe Toland, actress, and two sons, Gregg, Jr., aged two, and Timothy, one month old. He served in the Navy during the last war and was a lieutenant commander. He was a stockholder in Samuel Goldwyn Productions.

TOA Aids Australian Boy

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 28.—A six-year-old Australian boy who lost his speech four years ago arrived here yesterday by plane from his country en route to the Institute of Logopedics in Wichita, Kans., for treatment under the sponsorship of the Theatre Owners of America.



THE PAWS THAT REFRESH YOUR BOX-OFFICE!

M-G-M's line-up listed below is the Talk of the Industry! Leo's history-making Spring and Summer record continues unabated into the Fall and Winter! For that golden sparkle at the Box-office take Metro-Cola!

GREER GARSON, WALTER PIDGEON
in "JULIA MISBEHAVES"
PETER LAWFORD, ELIZABETH TAYLOR
CESAR ROMERO, Lucile Watson, Nigel
Bruce, Mary Boland, Reginald Owen

★ ★ ★

DANA ANDREWS, LILLI PALMER
and LOUIS JOURDAN in
"NO MINOR VICES"
with Jane Wyatt

★ ★ ★

"THE SECRET LAND" (Technicolor)

Starring
MEN AND SHIPS
Of The U. S. NAVY
Narration By
Comdr. ROBERT MONTGOMERY, U.S.N.R.
Lt. ROBERT TAYLOR, U.S.N.R.
Lt. VAN HEFLIN, A.A.F. (Ret.)

★ ★ ★

Alexandre Dumas'
"THE THREE MUSKETEERS" (Technicolor)
Starring
LANA TURNER, GENE KELLY
JUNE ALLYSON, VAN HEFLIN
ANGELA LANSBURY
Frank Morgan, Vincent Price, Keenan
Wynn, John Sutton, Gig Young

"HILLS OF HOME" (Technicolor)
Starring
EDMUND GWENN, DONALD CRISP
TOM DRAKE, JANET LEIGH
and LASSIE

★ ★ ★

FRANK SINATRA, KATHRYN GRAYSON
in "THE KISSING BANDIT" (Technicolor)
J. Carol Naish, Mildred Natwick
Mikhail Rasumny, Billy Gilbert
Sono Osato with Dance Specialties By
Ricardo Montalban, Ann Miller, Cyd Charisse

★ ★ ★

John Ford's
"3 GODFATHERS" (Technicolor)
Presented by John Ford & Merian C. Cooper
Starring
JOHN WAYNE, PEDRO ARMENDARIZ
And Introducing HARRY CAREY, Jr.
with Ward Bond, Mae Marsh
Jane Darwell, Ben Johnson

★ ★ ★

"WORDS AND MUSIC" (Technicolor)
Starring
JUNE ALLYSON, PERRY COMO
JUDY GARLAND, LENA HORNE
GENE KELLY, MICKEY ROONEY
ANN SOTHERN with Tom Drake
Cyd Charisse, Betty Garrett, Janet Leigh
Marshall Thompson, Mel Tormé, Vera-Ellen

CLARK GABLE, WALTER PIDGEON
VAN JOHNSON, BRIAN DONLEVY
Charles Bickford, John Hodiak
Edward Arnold in
"COMMAND DECISION"
with Marshall Thompson, Richard Quine
Cameron Mitchell, Clinton Sundberg
Ray Collins

★ ★ ★

"LITTLE WOMEN" (Technicolor)
Starring
JUNE ALLYSON, PETER LAWFORD
MARGARET O'BRIEN, ELIZABETH TAYLOR
JANET LEIGH, ROSSANO BRAZZI
MARY ASTOR with Lucile Watson
C. Aubrey Smith, Harry Davenport

★ ★ ★

ROBERT TAYLOR
AVA GARDNER
CHARLES LAUGHTON
VINCENT PRICE
JOHN HODIAK in
"THE BRIBE"

★ ★ ★

"SUN IN THE MORNING"
(Technicolor) Starring
JEANETTE MacDonald
LLOYD NOLAN, CLAUDE JARMAN, Jr.
and LASSIE
with Lewis Stone, Percy Kilbride

"ACT OF VIOLENCE"
Starring
VAN HEFLIN, ROBERT RYAN
with Janet Leigh, Mary Astor
Phyllis Thaxter

★ ★ ★

SPENCER TRACY
DEBORAH KERR
in "EDWARD, MY SON"
with Ian Hunter

★ ★ ★

JOHN GARFIELD in
The Roberts Production of
"FORCE OF EVIL"
with Thomas Gomez and Marie Windsor
And Introducing BEATRICE PEARSON

★ ★ ★

FRED ASTAIRE, GINGER ROGERS in
"THE BARKLEYS OF BROADWAY"
(Technicolor)
with Oscar Levant, Billie Burke
Gale Robbins, Jacques Francois

★ ★ ★

FRANK SINATRA
ESTHER WILLIAMS, GENE KELLY in
"TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALL GAME"
(Technicolor)
with Betty Garrett
Edward Arnold, Jules Munshin

SEE FOR YOURSELF! TRADE SHOWS OF "HILLS OF HOME" OCT. 11th
AND "THE THREE MUSKETEERS" OCT. 14th!

ONE OF THE YEARS



ROUGH HEAT..



GAS SHORTAGE..

still



HUGE CROWDS... at gala

**World Premiere, Two Paramounts,
Hollywood and Downtown,
Los Angeles...and still they come
for second big week!**

**NOW WATCH THE GROSSES CONTINUE
THAT BIG-BUSINESS SPIRAL AT...**

UNITED ARTISTS, CHICAGO

SAENGER, NEW ORLEANS

AND 150 OTHER BIG DATES!

There's **LOVE** in
MOONRISE

There's **EXCITEMENT** in
MOONRISE

There's **DANGER** in
MOONRISE

SURPRISE HITS!

FRANK BORZAGE'S

PRODUCTION OF

Moonrise

starring

DANE CLARK ★ GAIL RUSSELL
ETHEL BARRYMORE

with

ALLYN JOSLYN • REX INGRAM • HENRY MORGAN
and DAVID STREET • SELENA ROYLE
LLOYD BRIDGES • LILA LEEDS

AND EXHIBITORS KNOW
THERE'S MONEY in
MOONRISE

Screen Play by CHARLES HAAS • Produced by CHARLES HAAS
Based on the Novel "MOONRISE" by THEODORE STRAUSS

Directed by FRANK BORZAGE

A REPUBLIC PRESENTATION



Para. Expands Video Recording: Shupert

DETROIT, Sept. 28.—Indicating the "staggering investment" involved in the laying of a national network of coaxial television cables, George Shupert, director of commercial operations of Paramount's television division, declared here today that Paramount's film transcription technique has proved to be a more economical and quicker method for relaying video shows. He predicted advertisers will probably find the film recordings as practical as "live shows" for their purposes, in an address at a Television Round Table luncheon meeting at the Detroit Leland Hotel.

Shupert disclosed that duplicates of Paramount's New York recording system will be installed shortly in Chicago and Los Angeles at a cost of about \$35,000 each, compared with an initial investment of more than a quarter of a million dollars. He also revealed that in a month Paramount will set up a completely-equipped television studio in New York to record commercial programs.

Ask F.C.C. Action on A.T. & T. Video Relay

WASHINGTON, Sept. 28.—DuMont, Philco and Western Union today asked the Federal Communications Commission to require American Telephone and Telegraph to relay telecasts originated by or going to their systems. They asked the FCC to postpone a decision on proper television relay rates until it rules on whether A. T. and T. is properly interpreting a restriction in its tariff on integrating its video channels with those of other carriers.

The tariff hearings opened today.

Colquhoun Succeeds Peckham in Dallas

B. G. Kranze, sales vice-president of Film Classics, has appointed Norman Colquhoun branch manager of the Dallas exchange. Colquhoun replaces Ralph Peckham, who has resigned to enter business for himself.



**FIVE-STAR
DC-6
FLAGSHIPS**

LOS ANGELES

11 hours, 10 minutes

CHICAGO

3¼ hours

Phone HAVemeyer 6-5000
or your travel agent

Ticket Offices: Airlines Terminal
Rockefeller Center • Hotel New Yorker
120 Broadway • Hotel St. George

**AMERICAN
AIRLINES**

TESMA - TEDPA

(Continued from page 1)

two conventions, which has been going on since Sunday, has topped the 1,200 mark. Exhibits of the big trade show, formally opened yesterday afternoon, are showing on a daily 12-hour schedule.

This year's trade show features a number of new exhibitors who are entering the drive-in theatre equipment field. Side by side with exhibits of past years which are household words in the motion picture world, are new exhibits and panoramas showing the drive-in theatre of today and tomorrow.

The new products ranged from complete models for drive-ins to the latest in sales equipment for drive-in concessionaires.

Besides its drink dispenser exhibit, Tol-Pak of St. Louis promised visitors to its booth a new 32-pound portable dispenser of carbonated drinks, holding two gallons, and available for aisle sales in a drive-in. Calumet Coach Co., Chicago, showed a mobile snackbar, candy stand and hot dog cooker units which can be moved to any part of a drive-in deemed desirable.

Drive-In Theatre Manufacturing Co., Kansas City, showed a combination ramp identification and driveway flood lamp with a new indicator light which shows the car vacancies on a drive-in ramp. A further control system will tabulate the total of cars in the drive-in and show the results at the gate.

An "in-a-car" sound reception apparatus with heating attachment was exhibited by Theatrecraft Manufacturing Corp., Cleveland. Along the same line was a built-in signal on the car speaker designed to summon the concessionaire, with different colors to call for popcorn, soft drinks, etc. The exhibitor was Autocrat, Inc., Dayton.

The second day of the convention will be devoted to the TESMA and TEDPA annual meetings with the annual banquet in the evening.

Buddy Rogers

(Continued from page 1)

cians from Hollywood, plus one director and perhaps only one star for the project.

Rogers said he visited several principal cities of Germany and got the impression that the people of that country are virtually convinced that there are only three types of Americans—millionaire playboys, gangsters and Western characters—this, because of the kind of U. S. films being sent to that country. He suggested more careful screening of product.

Rogers and Mary Pickford, his wife, also in New York, plan to return to the Coast at the end of this week. His latest is "High Fury," awaiting release by United Artists.

MPEA Fears Break

(Continued from page 1)

Central Price Control Commission. The MPEA directors felt that these regulations would "severely penalize" member companies, subjecting them to "harsh business conditions, including film rentals."

Mayer returned last week from France, where he spent three months as consultant to the American Embassy on the French-American film accord.

ITOA vs. Ascap

(Continued from page 1)

members of the Independent Theatre Owners Association, New York.

They ask the court to decree that Ascap members hereafter must license public performance rights of their music which is synchronized on films only to the producers of the films.

The theatremen further seek to have both Ascap and its members permanently enjoined and restrained from suing exhibitors who have refused and who continue to refuse to pay for the performance rights of music which, in a separate arrangement with the producer, is synchronized on film.

It is asked that Ascap and its members be enjoined from any agreement with a producer under which the latter obtains synchronization rights to musical compositions on condition that the right to exhibit his film be limited to theatres "having a license from Ascap, the copyright proprietor or any agent, licensee or assignee of the copyright proprietor."

And, governing the future activities of Ascap members, the New York court is asked to enjoin them from "combining with each other or any other copyright proprietor or combining through any agency or instrumentality with relation to the licensing of the right of public performance for profit of any copyrighted musical composition synchronized with motion picture film, and from adopting or attempting to adopt any uniform plan or practice in the licensing of such performing rights and from pooling the proceeds derived from the licensing of any such rights."

Ascap will present its proposal of a decree in the case today. A court hearing is scheduled for Oct. 6. A postponement from Oct. 5 was agreed upon because it conflicted with the Jewish holidays.

U. K. Remittances

(Continued from page 1)

any prospect that the British government might decrease the amount of dollars which American film companies can take from the U. K., replied: "Not as far as I know." He recalled that the American industry had an agreement with Sir Harold Wilson, head of the British Board of Trade, governing remittances, and "there is no reason to think this agreement might be varied" before 1950, Cripps said, "unless our American friends want it changed" (presumably meaning reduced).

Liberty, Monroe Suit Hearings Are Slated

CHICAGO, Sept. 28.—Hearings involving the two remaining defendants, Universal and Columbia, in the Liberty Amusement Co. case, is scheduled for Nov. 2 in Judge John Barnes' U. S. District Court here. An out-of-court agreement has been reached with defendants Paramount, Warner and Republic, granting the Liberty Theatre, Michigan City, operated by plaintiff Louis Philon, an opportunity to compete for first run playing. Representing plaintiff is attorney Seymour Simon.

At the same time, Judge Barnes has set trial hearings in the Monroe Amusement Co. anti-trust suit for April 4, 1949, in District Court.

Because of a statement made last week by Judge Michael J. Igoe during hearings on "A Foreign Affair," to the effect that his court does not have power of jurisdiction to modify the Jackson Park decree, Thomas McConnell, Jackson Park attorney, today entered a motion with the Circuit Court of Appeals to dismiss his appeal in opposition to Judge Igoe's granting of extended Loop playing time for Paramount's "Emperor Waltz."

U.A., Joining Others, Settles with Harford

WASHINGTON, Sept. 28.—The anti-trust case instituted over two years ago by the Harford Theatre Co. of Baltimore against major distributors was completely closed today when United Artists agreed to settle on the same terms agreed to last month by the other seven majors.

Under the settlement, Harford gets a better break on playing time but none of the damages it asked for. Now it will have an availability of seven days from the Durkee and Rome circuits. Before, the Harford's clearance was tied to the Durkee and Rome.

4 Will List Theatres

(Continued from page 1)

Justice Department before the case comes to trial again in New York Federal Court on Oct. 13. (Incidentally, a brief postponement of this date because it conflicts with the observance of Yom Kippur still is regarded as a possibility).

However, doubt that the presentation of the lists will automatically mean a long delay in the trial was expressed here by Austin Keough, vice-president and general counsel of Paramount.



THERE
IS
A
BIG
NEW
NAME
IN
THE
INDUSTRY

NEXT FROM WARNER BROS.

Accurate
Concise
and
Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

FILE COPY
FIRST
IN
FILM
NEWS

VO J. NO. 64

NEW YORK, U.S.A., THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1948

TEN CENTS

Ascap Out To Modify N. Y. Court Ruling

To Move for Amended Findings; Files Decree

American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, in a move to tone down the language used by New York Federal Court Judge Vincent L. Leibell in his decision against the society, has prepared and served upon exhibitor plaintiffs in the case a motion to amend Leibell's findings and conclusions of law.

Simultaneous with the service of the motion yesterday, Ascap also submitted to the clerk of the New York court and to the plaintiffs its proposed judgment which would enjoin it from theatre collections only on U. S.-made pictures and restrain its members from collections only when they are "acting in concert."

Ascap's attempt to get some of the more sweeping and harsher language of Judge Leibell's decision modified was not unanticipated.

The society's strategy in the case all along has been to make such an effort and, should it succeed to the degree hoped for by Ascap, the society

(Continued on page 2)

Detroit Hearings of House Group Off

WASHINGTON, Sept. 29.—Michigan theatre owners who had hoped to tell their trade troubles to a House Small Business Committee at hearings scheduled in Detroit Oct. 1-2 will not have a chance to do it.

A committee aide announced here today that the Detroit hearings had been cancelled because Chairman Ploeser had not been able to work them into the committee's travel schedule. Hearings have already been held in eight cities, bringing a

(Continued on page 2)

FCC to Freeze New Television Permits 3 Mos.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 29. — The Federal Communications Commission is expected to announce tomorrow a freeze on any further television applications or actions. The purpose is to let the Commission digest the outpourings at three recent sets of television hearings, and possibly lay down some new basic rules on what frequencies and allocations will be available to commercial television broadcasters, before passing on any individual applications.

The freeze, which is expected to last for three months or more, will probably cover both further hearings and license grants, industry observers feel. Announcement of the FCC action is expected at a press conference slated for tomorrow morning by FCC chairman Wayne Coy, where, according to advance information, he will

(Continued on page 4)

Film Stock Trading Light, SEC Reports

WASHINGTON, Sept. 29.—Trading by officers and directors in stocks of their companies was extremely light during the month ending Sept. 10, the latest report of the Securities and Exchange Commission reveals. Only four firms listed transactions, and all of those were minor.

At Universal, Daniel M. Sheaffer sold 2,940 shares of common in six transactions, dropping his holdings to 2,367 shares. Preston Davie sold

(Continued on page 2)

US 'SOFTENING' ON A CONSENT DECREE

TOA in Albany Area To Elect Officers

Albany, N. Y., Sept. 29.—A meeting to elect officers of the Theatre Owners of America for this territory will be held within three weeks, said temporary chairman Harry Lamont. A date will be fixed after he and executive secretary-counsel Leonard Rosenthal confer with TOA national officers in New York. Three additional directors are slated to be chosen.

K-MTA Elects Bills To Succeed Strowig

KANSAS CITY, Sept. 29. — Elmer Bills of Salisbury, Mo., was elected president of Kansas-Missouri Theatre Association, succeeding Homer Strowig of Abilene, Kan., at the annual convention held here. Dale Danielson of Russell, Kan., was elected vice-president, succeeding Bills; J. A. Becker of Independence succeeds C. E. Cook as secretary, and Fred Meyn of Kansas City was reelected treasurer. As the new president, Bills was named to the Theatre Owners of America directorate, with R. R. Biechele as alternate.

The morning session was devoted principally to a talk by Herman Levy, TOA general counsel, followed by discussion of specific problems. J. A. Becker spoke on public relations, and

(Continued on page 2)

Clark Abandons Stand on 'Complete Divestiture'; Byrnes Resumes Talks

WASHINGTON, Sept. 29.—Attorney General Tom Clark said here today that the Government would take a decree "if we could get divestiture of a sufficient number of theatres."

He hastened to point out that "our interpretation of sufficient is much stronger than that of the companies," but at the same time laid much stress on how a consent decree settlement "would be a big saving to the Government, to get the thing out of the way. More than likely it'll go back to the Supreme Court if it's tried."

Clark left no doubt that the Government would settle for quite a bit less than complete divestiture. He said the Department of Justice would ask for complete divorcement in the proceedings opening in New York District Court next month, but declared that he doubted that "the lower court would go that far, in view of the Supreme Court's opinion."

It was learned from trade sources here that James F. Byrnes, counsel

(Continued on page 4)

'IA' Wins 10% Pay Hike at Universal

A 10 per cent wage increase was won yesterday by IATSE Motion Picture Home Office Employees Local No. H-63 for all 425 home office "white collarites" at Universal-International, Universal Newsreel and U-I affiliates Castle Films and United World Films.

The increase will be retroactive to July 1, and the expiration date of the new contract will be Aug. 31, 1949. Earlier this week H-63 won a similar

(Continued on page 2)

Next Two Years May Be Best For Equipment Field: Golden

St. Louis, Sept. 29.—As TESMA's \$100,000 trade show swung into its second big day, Nathan D. Golden, chief of the motion picture branch, office of international trade, Department of Commerce, predicted the next two years may well be the biggest in the motion picture theatre equipment business.

Whether the equipment industry exceeds its present highs, Golden said, depends on the allotment of building material to waiting theatre builders. Foreign export is complicated by the dollar scarcity, but Golden was opti-

mistic about a rise in the present \$5,000,000 to \$10,000,000 in exports.

"American manufacturers have the opportunity of a lifetime to sell their equipment," he said. "Despite the dollar problem, no manufacturer should be deterred from seeking a market wherever he can make sales."

The trade exhibits, this year all made in America, were a hive for the more than a thousand manufacturers and dealers attending the TESMA and TEDPA annual sessions. There was unanimous agreement the show

(Continued on page 2)

1,693 Canada Houses; 216 Opened in a Year

Toronto, Sept. 29.—An increase of 216 new or reopened theatres last year throughout Canada is reported by the government in a study of film industry operations. Total active theatres rose to 1,693, from 1,477.

Extended Deadline For 'Youth Month'

Tangible evidence that "Youth Month" will be maintained far beyond its September deadline was received yesterday at Theatre Owners of America headquarters here with reports of extensive activities for youths throughout the Midwest.

Personal Mention

E. J. MANNIX, M-G-M studio executive, left the Coast last night for New York. He will sail for Europe on the *SS Queen Mary* tomorrow.

JUNE SCHLOSSBERG, secretary to **DAN S. TERRELL**, head of advertising-publicity for Loew's out-of-town theatres, will be married on Saturday to **WILLIAM SMITH**.

BEAUMONT NEWHALL, former curator of the department of photography of the Museum of Modern Arts here, has been named curator of George Eastman House, Inc.

L. J. MCGINLEY, Prestige Pictures sales manager, is attending Universal-International regional sales meetings at Cincinnati, Chicago and San Francisco.

JOHN B. MCCULLOUGH, Motion Picture Association of America's director of conservation, has left here on an inspection tour of Midwest exchanges.

JAMES R. GRAINGER, Republic distribution vice-president, and **WALTER TITUS**, Eastern division sales manager, have returned to New York from Boston.

HUGH McDONALD, M-G-M booker in Charlotte, and his bride are honeymooning here and will visit Chicago next week before returning home.

D. C. COLLINS, manager of the Electrical Research Products division of Western Electric, will leave New York today for the Coast.

BORIS L. GARNER, head of Vog Film, will arrive at LaGuardia Airport next Tuesday from Paris.

JOHN P. BYRNE, M-G-M Eastern sales manager, is in Boston this week from New York.

RICHARD DE ROCHEMONT, March of Time producer, is due here today from Europe on the *SS Queen Mary*.

F. A. BATEMAN, Screen Guild sales manager, is in Kansas City from Hollywood on a tour of exchanges.

RUSS STEWART, M-G-M home office publicist, has returned here from New England.

Benjamin Joins Astor As 'Frisco Manager

Elmer Benjamin, film pioneer, has joined Astor Pictures as manager in San Francisco, it has been announced here by **R. M. Savini**, Astor president. Benjamin, who will function under **F. L. (Pat) Patterson**, head of the Los Angeles and San Francisco exchanges, has also formed Reel Pictures, with headquarters in Astor's exchange to handle new films as well as reissues.

Oct. 26 Set by FTC For 'Blimp' Hearing

WASHINGTON, Sept. 29.—Hearings will be held in New York on Oct. 26 by the Federal Trade Commission in connection with the commission's complaint against United Artists on "Colonel Blimp," an FTC attorney reported here today. FTC has accused the company of misrepresenting the picture in its advertising.

United Artists officials in New York said yesterday that no word has been received by them from the Federal Trade Commission concerning a hearing date on the "Colonel Blimp" matter.

Take 'Curley' Suit To Circuit Court

MEMPHIS, Sept. 29.—Suit of United Artists and Hal Roach against the Memphis Board of Censors in connection with the banning from Memphis screens of the comedy, "Curley," is in process of being transferred from chancery to circuit court.

Two motions, scheduled for hearing before Chancellor Creson yesterday, were delayed indefinitely as attorneys for both sides agreed to transfer the suit.

Universal Pay Hike

(Continued from page 1)

blanket increase for all 619 Warner home office "collarites."

The local's executive board is scheduled to meet here today to consider the increase at U-I, *et al*, and it is expected that the 425 workers involved will meet shortly to vote on it.

20th-Fox's SPG and SOPEG Units to Plan Moves Today

The 20th Century-Fox units of Screen Publicists Guild and Screen Office and Professional Employees Guild will hold a joint strategy meeting here this evening. The meeting was called following reports that members were resigning from the units because the company has refused to negotiate new contracts until union officers file non-Communist affidavits with the National Labor Relations Board as stipulated in the Taft-Hartley Law.

Golden to Tesma

(Continued from page 1)

pointed to bigger and better theatre equipment, and theatres.

E. J. Vallen of Akron, dean of the manufacturers in attendance, saw third-dimension, electrically operated contour controls with color lighting, curtain of spun glass and like materials, as new subjects likely to occupy manufacturers in the next year.

Annual business sessions of TESMA and TEDPA were held this morning at closed sessions. Presidents **Oscar F. Neu** and **Ray G. Colvin** said the associations would release reports on the business sessions at the convention's closing sessions tomorrow. Also on today's program were the National Carbon Co. reception and the annual banquet.

Ascap Motion

(Continued from page 1)

then would dispense with an appeal. If the move fails or is diluted appreciably, Ascap will be forced to appeal and already has decided to do so in such an eventuality.

See Licensing Setup Jeopardized

Feeling within Ascap is that as Judge Leibell's decision now stands its whole licensing structure is subject to attack. The society's present move is to attempt to eliminate reflections on its licensing methods in performing rights fields outside of theatres, and to have modified some of the language of the decision applicable to its theatre licensing methods, according to observers.

Ascap's proposed decree would restrain it and its members from "conspiring" with film producers for the purpose of including clauses in exhibition contracts directing that music rights be cleared through Ascap. The society asks that no limit be placed on its or its members' rights to acquire and license public performance rights to exhibitors of music synchronized with films produced outside the U. S. Ascap also seeks to have its operations outside the U. S. remain unaffected by the judgment.

ITOA Asks Harsher Terms

Plaintiffs in the suit, all of them members of the Independent Theatre Owners Association of New York, have a vastly different opinion of what should be included in the court's decree. In their proposals which were reported yesterday in MOTION PICTURE DAILY, they seek to enjoin Ascap from theatre collections entirely and ask the court to direct that Ascap members license both public performance and synchronization rights of their music to the motion picture producer. Additionally, they submitted that all contracts between producers and Ascap and between distributors and exhibitors which provided that exhibitors obtain music rights through Ascap be declared invalid.

Film Stock Trading

(Continued from page 1)

1,800 shares, leaving him with 3,409. **N. Peter Rathvon** sold 500 shares of RKO common during the period, making his total sales 5,800 shares in two months, leaving him with 14,200 shares.

Republic president **Herbert J. Yates** sold all of the 900 shares he held of his firm's \$1 cumulative preferred. He still holds 73,687 shares of 50-cent par common and \$25,000 of four per cent cumulative income debentures.

Albert Warner acquired 700 shares of Warner common, bringing his personal holdings to 435,200 shares; his trusts hold another 21,000 shares.

Coyne To Address AMPA

Robert W. Coyne, executive director of the Theatre Owners of America, will speak at the first 1948-49 luncheon-meeting of Associated Motion Picture Advertisers, to be held today at the Hotel Astor. **Max E. Youngstein** is AMPA president. **Gen. Robert A. McClure**, USA, will also be a speaker.

Foreign Films Tip L. of D. Ratings

ALBANY, N. Y., Sept. 29.—Noticeable trend in motion pictures, principally foreign importations, is the increased number rated Class "B" (adult only) and Class "C" (condemned) by the Legion of Decency, Most Rev. William A. Scully, Coadjutor Bishop of the Albany Diocese and chairman of the Bishops' Committee on Motion Pictures of the American Hierarchy, said here.

Bishop Scully, who was superintendent of diocesan schools in New York before his appointment to his present post, stated foreign standards are different than American, which is one reason for the number in "C" classification.

Riskins To Produce Films Independently

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 29.—Everett and Robert Riskin have formed Equitable Pictures to produce independently for major release, the nature of which is still to be determined. Everett simultaneously announced he is leaving M-G-M on conclusion of his contract. Robert's RKO deal is unaffected.

Bills Elected

(Continued from page 1)

Finton Jones on fire prevention. Parts of letters from the superintendent of schools of Kansas City, the secretary of the Council of Churches and the head of the city welfare department were read to the convention by **M. D. Cohn**, in which the writers commended exhibitors for their cooperation and accomplishments in "Youth Month." **Senn Lawler** pointed out that the Board of Education had asked for a conference with theatre men for the purpose of working out plans for "Education Week."

Elected to the K-MTA board of directors are the following: **Ralph Winship**, **Beichele**, **Strowig**, **Gordon Holaday**, and **K. E. Pennington**, all from Kansas; and **C. E. Cook**, **Glen Hall**, **Virgil Harbison**, **Jay Means** and **Frank Weary**, all of Missouri. Also named were **Frank Plumlee** of Theatre Enterprises, **Elmer C. Rhoden** of Fox Midwest, and **Clarence A. Schultz** of Commonwealth Theatres.

Detroit Hearings Off

(Continued from page 1)

steady stream of testimony from exhibitors. Hearings scheduled for Louisville on Oct. 5, Oklahoma City, on Oct. 8, and in Houston on Oct. 11 still stand. Committee officials have also indicated hopes of holding hearings in New Orleans at the end of November to coincide with the convention of Allied States Association.

McCarey Alters Slate

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 29.—Leo McCarey has juggled his production schedule to make his own original, "Adam and Eve," his first Rainbow production under the Paramount banner. The producer-director is working on another story idea which he will film as his last for RKO Radio.

**WHEREVER MOTION PICTURES
ARE REVIEWED
YOU'LL BE READING A RAVE FOR
WARNER BROS.**

Johnny Belinda



Johnny Belinda (Drama)

Atlantic City, Sept. 7.—"Johnny Belinda" is a compelling, adult drama, told with sensitive taste. A story of a tragedy with a happy ending, the film is one that packs a boxoffice wallop and can be sold for big returns.

Jane Wyman's portrayal is boff. It's a compellingly artistic display of talent, demonstrating that an artist can project emotions and sway an audience without a spoken word. Of equal worth is Lew Ayres' co-starring performance. There are few who can convey the sincerity with which he endows a role and he makes his part a sock performance.

The melodramatic angles will capture fancy of the general public, particularly the femmes, and there is a strong appeal to the class trade because of the intelligent interpretation displayed by script, direction and playing.

Jerry Wald's production has missed no bets in presenting it for outstanding attention. He realizes on every merit of the many strong points of the story and has given the film sock casting, in star spots and right on down the line.

Plot is one that, in less adroit and sympathetic hands, could have been a highly theatrical melodrama. The theatrics are there but so deftly handled in the presentation that they give a solid backing. Jean Negulesco's direction guides the development leisurely but never slowly, treating the plot and players with potent understanding. He never overplays the heartstrings, yet keeps them constantly moved. An example of the deft handling is the rape scene. It's alive and vivid, but never becomes a tent-twenty-third meller problem.

There are commanding performances by Charles Bickford as Miss Wyman's father and Agnes Moorehead as her aunt. Bickford's work is an unusually able realization on the part's demands. Stephen McNally is excellent as the rapist and Jan Sterling, as the village belle who marries him, also comes through strongly. Rosalind Ivan, Mabel Paige and Ida Moore shine as thoughtless village gossips. Dan Seymour and others in the large cast lend strong support.

Wald's supervision has accounted for top work in technical assignments. Ted McCord's photography makes a picturesque display of the drab Nova Scotia background and the tender, moving mood of the film is heightened by Max Steiner's music score. Set decorations, special effects, film editing and all other technical aids help in making this a class feature.

WARNERS RELEASE. Producer, Jerry Wald. Director, Jean Negulesco. Screen play by Elmer Harris. Produced by Elmer Harris.

JANE WYMAN • LEW AYRES
"JOHNNY BELINDA"
with CHARLES BICKFORD
AGNES MOOREHEAD • STEPHEN MCNALLY
directed by JEAN NEGULESCO • JERRY WALD
Screen Play by IRMGARD VON CUBE and ALLEN VINCENT
From the Stage Play by Elmer Harris • Produced by Elmer Harris
Wagstaff Gribble • Music by MAX STEINER

Craven, Arthur, Joan Winfield, Ian Wolfe, Robert, Jonathan Hale, Ray Montgomery.



'Best Actresses' Are Invited to 'Belinda'

The 37 actresses who have given the finest performances of all time in the opinion of the nation's drama editors are being invited to the premiere of Warner's "Johnny Belinda" on Oct. 14 at Warner's Hollywood Theatre in Hollywood. A poll to determine the newsmen's choices was conducted by Warner among leading newspapers. Forty-two different actresses were named in the poll; of these, five, Renee Adoree, Belle Bennett, Jeanne Eagles, Carole Lombard and Beryl Mercer, are deceased.

Jane Wyman, who co-stars with Lew Ayres in "Johnny Belinda," is among those named in the poll. Miss Wyman, now on a 10-city press tour, will return to the Coast for the Hollywood premiere. Bette Davis received the greatest number of votes.

'Apartment' Opens In Detroit Today

DETROIT, Sept. 29.—A delegation of Hollywood personalities tomorrow will touch off the world premiere of 20th Century-Fox's "Apartment for Peggy" at the Fox Theatre here. Attending will be William Holden, Edmund Gwenn, George Seaton and Colleen Townsend. Climaxing civic and social events, and interviews, they will appear at three shows at the theatre during the first day of the run.

The premiere activities were co-ordinated by Dave Idzal, manager of the Fox, and Sid Blumenstock, 20th-Fox assistant exploitation manager.

E-L Preparing for Premiere in Toronto

TORONTO, Sept. 28.—Jerry Pickman, Eagle-Lion assistant advertising-publicity director, is here to arrange for the world premiere of "Let's Live a Little," which will inaugurate Twentieth Century Theatres' new Downtown on Oct. 9. Pickman is conferring with Irving Herman, advertising-publicity director for International Film Distributors, E-L outlet here.

City officials have relaxed the ban on front illumination, imposed because of the power shortage, for the event at the theatre.

Toland Rites Today

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 29.—Funeral services for Gregg Toland, Samuel Goldwyn cinematographer, who died on Tuesday, will be held tomorrow afternoon at Hollywood Cemetery Chapel. Toland was about to introduce his new "ultimate focus" camera technique at the time of his death.

**BANKING FOR THE
MOTION PICTURE
INDUSTRY**



**BANKERS TRUST
COMPANY**
NEW YORK

MEMBER FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

Review

"Unfaithfully Yours"

(20th Century-Fox)

PRESTON STURGES' special gift for daffy comedy achieves hilarious expression in "Unfaithfully Yours." As a satire about the revenge fantasies of a symphony conductor who thinks his wife has been unfaithful, the picture has spots that will make the most hardened poker-face concede defeat and break into helpless laughter. It is adult fare that has been conditioned all around for high box-office performance. Much of the credit is due to the talents of the excellent cast, headed by Rex Harrison, Linda Darnell, Barbara Lawrence and Rudy Vallee. All of these persuasive assets, however, do not free the picture from moments when the running time of 105 minutes create an inflated quality.

Having been led to believe of his wife's infidelity, Harrison, in the middle of a symphony, gets carried away with delusions of retribution. In one episode he envisages himself murdering his wife and blaming the crime on her lover. In another fantasy he gives her up in a noble gesture; and finally he pictures himself putting a gun to his temple with a cavalier abandon. Sturges, who did the screenplay as well as the direction and production, has evolved a perfect blending of mood, music and photography, giving the narrative a pungent, lasting flavor.

As the aloof and erratic conductor who finds that all of his suspicions were a witless mistake, Harrison gives an exhilarating performance. Support is superb from Miss Darnell as his wife; Vallee as a befuddled relative-in-law, and Miss Lawrence as Vallee's bored and acid-tongued wife. Some memorable characterizations are also provided by Kurt Kreuger, Lionel Stander and Edgar Kennedy.

Three high-brow musical selections are offered from the works of Rossini, Wagner and Tchaikowsky.

Running time, 105 minutes. Adult audience classification. For release in December.

MANDEL HERBSTMAN

US 'Softens'

(Continued from page 1)

for 20th Century-Fox in the Paramount case, had a long interview with the Attorney General last week, at which Byrnes told Clark that the film companies were still split on terms for a proposed consent decree but that progress was being made in working out a mutually-agreeable formula on what theatres must be sold.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY reported yesterday that four of the theatre-owning defendants in the Paramount case were preparing lists of their theatres which they regarded as "expedient" in a consent decree settlement, and which they would divest themselves of voluntarily should a decree agreement be reached.

(RKO, the fifth company, said it was not participating in consent decree discussions and was planning to make a "different approach." Some observers have interpreted this to mean that RKO is exploring the advisability of disposing of its theatres as a matter of business rather than legal strategy.)

The change in Government attitude toward a consent decree has been marked over the past six months.

After the Supreme Court decision last spring, Clark said the Government would get complete victory "and not by the consent decree route." Earlier this month, he said the door was open for film attorneys to come in and talk over a consent decree. Now, apparently, he is just waiting for the proposal in order to get down to dollars-and-cents bargaining.

N.S.S. Acquires Space

National Screen Service, trailer and accessories manufacturers and distributors, has acquired a portion of the Street and Smith Building here for storage purposes, George Dembow, NSS president, reported yesterday.

New Post for Weissman

George Weissman, former publicist for Samuel Goldwyn Productions, has joined the Benjamin Sonnenberg office here.

Linet To Lecture Here

Henry A. (Hank) Linet, Universal-International Eastern advertising manager, will be guest lecturer at the American Theatre Wing screen seminar here tonight. His subject will be the organization and function of a film company advertising-publicity department.

N. T. F. C. Elections To Be Held Tonight

Election of the first officers for the National Television Film Council will be held here tonight at a dinner-meeting at Sardi's.

A proposed standard television exhibition contract will be discussed and recommendations heard. Guest speaker will be Edward Carroll, manager of DuMont's teletext department.

FCC to Freeze

(Continued from page 1)

reveal a development "of major importance to television."

Paramount, 20th-Fox, Warner, DuMont, and many firms owned all or partly by local circuits and other theatre interests, have applications pending which would be affected.

Recent hearings which the FCC must absorb and may rule on before it reopens the television field include those on expanding into upper frequencies, reallocation of the 12 existing channels, and reception difficulties.

The commission's calendar of hearings slated during the next three months, released today, is a good tip-off to the commission stand. It does not list a single television hearing.

Crosby Plans to Set Up 3-Station Video Chain

TACOMA, Sept. 29.—Bing Crosby has applied to the Federal Communications Commission for permission to build a television outlet here, his brother, Everett, told the Tacoma Chambers of Commerce today. He said Bing also was planning to set up stations in Yakima and Spokane.

TODAY

AMPA'S

FIRST LUNCHEON-MEETING OF THE 1948-49 SEASON!

HEAR BRIG-GEN. ROBERT A. McCLURE
TALK ON THE ARMY'S USE OF FILMS
FOR PSYCHOLOGICAL INDOCTRINATION

ROBERT W. COYNE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
OF T.O.A. WILL ALSO SPEAK

Send or call in your reservation now!

THURSDAY, SEPT. 30

HOTEL ASTOR—12:30 O'CLOCK

FOR TICKETS, TELEPHONE ANY OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

CHARLES ALICOATEBR 9-7117
CHET FRIEDMANCO 5-6370
HERMAN SCHLEIERCI 6-6460
LIGE BRIENPL 7-1600



She owes her "ripe old age" to him . . .

HOWEVER skillfully she might play her part, this young actress would still seem more girl than grandmother—save for the creative ingenuity of the make-up man.

By deft application of grease paint and putty, he has added years to her appearance . . . and conviction to her role.

This is but one instance of the magic at the make-up man's command. He does as much and more for film folk

who must be transformed to Jekyll, Cyrano, gnome, or Manchu.

When these characterizations reach audiences successfully, it is because the make-up man combines cosmetic artistry with full knowledge of his medium. And, in knowing films, he is aware of what is done to help his work by the versatile members of the Eastman motion picture family, famous films for more than fifty years.



EASTMAN KODAK COMPANY

ROCHESTER 4, N. Y.

J. E. BRULATOUR, INC., DISTRIBUTORS

FORT LEE • CHICAGO • HOLLYWOOD

The story of *THE LOVES OF CARMEN* can best be told by this advertisement inserted by the RKO Albee Theatre in Cincinnati newspapers.

HELD OVER! RKO ALBEE

★
**2ND
WEEK**
★

A RARE OCCASION ...
THIS IS ONLY THE 7th
PICTURE IN 10 YEARS TO BE HELD
OVER AT THE ALBEE THEATRE!
"CARMEN" stays because it is one of the most
Tempestuous, Sensational Hits to come out of
Hollywood! Record crowds are cheering it ... the
critics are raving over it!



COLUMBIA PICTURES presents

Rita
HAYWORTH

Glenn
FORD
in

The Loves of Carmen

COLOR BY
TECHNICOLOR

COLUMBIA PICTURES presents

Rita *Glenn*
HAYWORTH · FORD
The Loves of
Carmen

with
Ron RANDALL • Victor JORY • Luther ADLER
Arnold Moss • Joseph Buloff • Margaret Wycherly
Screenplay by Helen Deutsch
Directed and Produced by CHARLES VIDOR
A BECKWORTH CORP. PRODUCTION

COLOR BY
TECHNICOLOR

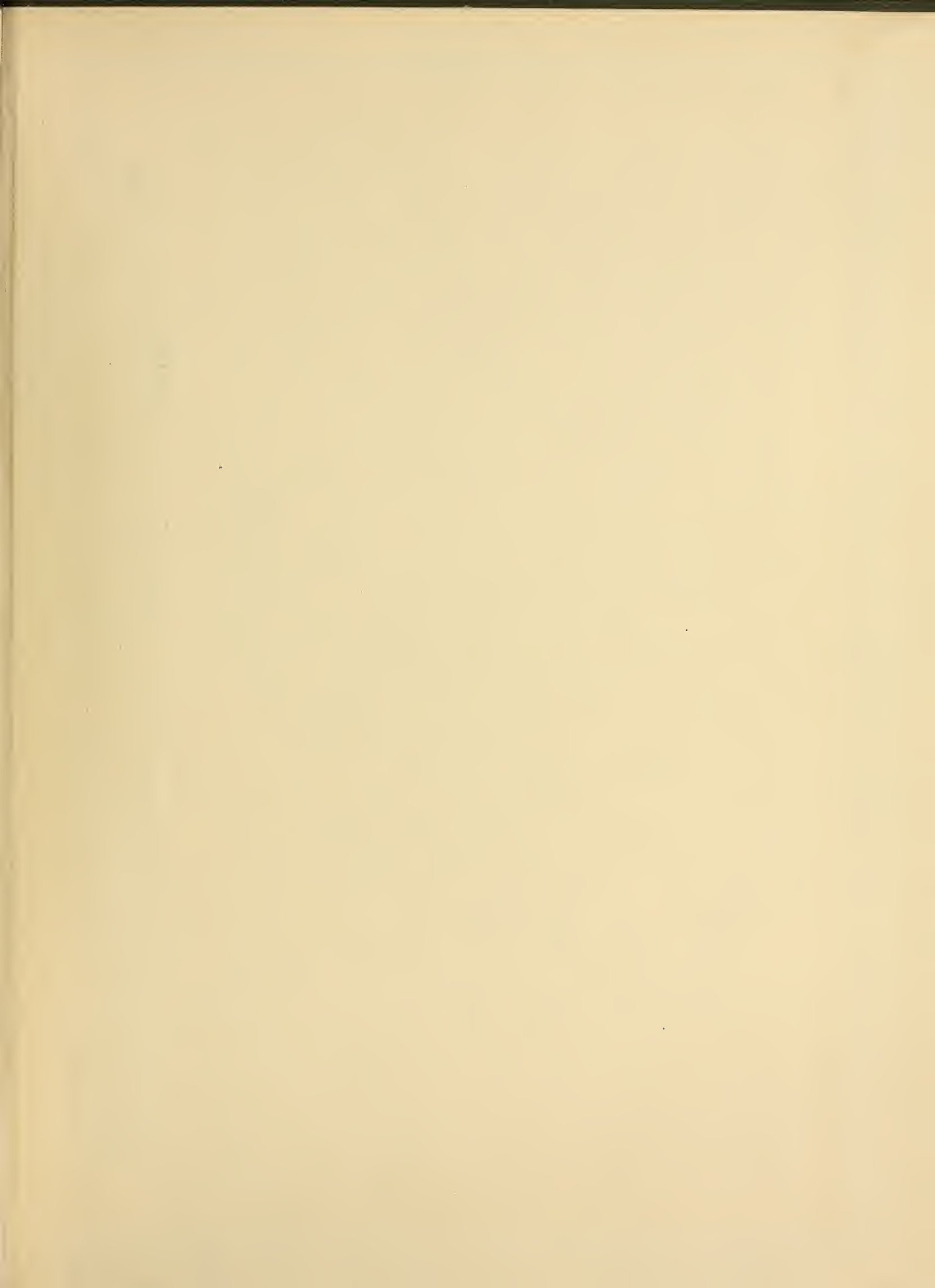
P.S. *Flash!* at Buffalo's Lafayette,
equals "Jolson" gross in first 2 days!

P.P.S. Still a Broadway hit
in its 5th week at Loew's State, N.Y.

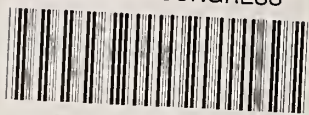








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